

Hafa Adai!

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75¢

Chamber open to increasing minimum wage past \$6.55

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Against criticism, Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Velma Palacios said yesterday that local businesses are not suppressing wages to the detriment of attracting more local



Palacios

workers and that in fact, a majority of businesses have been paying dollars higher than the minimum wage to retain much need-

ed workers in a growing economy and against competition from new developers.

Palacios also said, responding to questions from *Saipan Tribune*, that they are open to a push through the local legislature to raise the local

minimum wage even higher than the set increase of \$6.55 this September, jumping a couple of rungs up the ladder on the increases set every two years until the CNMI reaches the federal minimum wage of \$7.25.

» **Palacios says biz are not suppressing wages**

She told *Saipan Tribune* that staff from the Office of the Governor and the Chamber are trying to meet to discuss a possible increase in the minimum wage.

"I definitely would support that. But again, the only concern would be with those small and pop businesses."

See **WAGE** on **Page 4**



Educators challenged to be 'active knowledge mediators'

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan, Northern Marianas College interim president David Attao, Board of Education chair Herman T. Guerrero, NMC Board of Regents chair Frank Rabauliman, and regents Elaine Orilla and Cyndi Deleon Guerrero (not in photo) present a plaque to Palau Community College president Dr. Patrick Telei for his "Neil Baumgart Lecture" at the opening of the Pacific Circle Consortium on Tuesday. At the same time both PSS and NMNC education leaders honored PCC for reaching 40 years with executive committee member Shiwlan Doong receiving the award on behalf of the consortium.

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
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CORRESPONDENT

In its second day, the 40th Pacific Circle Consortium welcomed University of Guam president Robert A.

Underwood at Saipan Southern High School yesterday. In his keynote address, he urged educators to be "active knowledge mediators."

"When you help generate knowledge, when people find that they can

have real meaning in their lives and in the lives of others then they are fully involved in the process of knowledge making or knowledge mediating," he explained.

The week-long consortium,

which is hosted by the CNMI Public School System, Northern Marianas College, and RTI International, aims to promote understanding and camaraderie among countries

See **EDUCATORS** on **Page 4**

Suspect in robbery at 2 poker parlors falls

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Police arrested on Tuesday morning Dwight Lee D. Aldan, a 41-year-old man who was tagged as the suspect in the poker machine break-in and theft at Sun Palace Hotel's poker room and at Martha's Store poker room in Garapan.

Police served an arrest warrant to Aldan after he was spotted in San Antonio on Tuesday at 11am.

Aldan was taken to the Superior Court yesterday morning for bail hearing on charges of theft and criminal mischief.

Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio maintained the \$5,000 cash bail that the court earlier imposed in issuing an arrest warrant against Aldan.

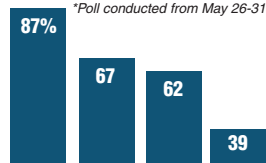
Kim-Tenorio said a private

See **SUSPECT** on **Page 4**

INSIDE

Percent saying it is a very or a somewhat serious problem that Hillary Clinton used a personal email address to conduct government business

*Poll conducted from May 26-31



NATION

The FBI recommended no criminal charges for her handling of highly classified material in a private email account.

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WORLD

The advertisement on the Telegram app is as chilling as it is incongruous: A girl for sale is "Virgin. Beautiful. 12 years old."

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LIFE & STYLE

Whether he was singing his own compositions or writing for other artists, Smokey Robinson was instrumental in shaping the Motown sound.

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Local

VOICES:

Amor Zapata

Editor's note: In Saipan Tribune's latest weekly series, "Voices" shares the stories of those in the CW community and sheds light on the humanitarian crisis in the CNMI.

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
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CORRESPONDENT

Amor Zapata's children, a 7-year-old and 5-year-old, do not fully comprehend what the contract workers cap means for their father, who has worked in the CNMI for nearly two decades.

Zapata and his wife, playfully tell them that they will be going back home soon to the Philippines. How his children respond is what makes Zapata worried about what may come if his contract is not renewed next April. His children, both of whom are U.S. citizens, tell him, "We are home, Daddy."

Zapata, 42, came to Saipan in 1998 and has since formed relationships with people he calls family and built his career. Currently, he stands as one of the few hundred U.S.

licensed nurses, one of three American board certified opticians, and one of four diabetes educators on the island.

The already occurring departure of many workers who have spent decades on island makes him not only worried about his children's well-being but the important work he leaves behind.

"My thought is, if the cap of people will be reached, I'll be out, who's going to take my place?" he told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview.

He stressed the need for workers in the CNMI's burgeoning tourism industry. "There's so many in need of workers here. Our cause [in the CW community] is not about us staying for green card status or citizenship, to me, personally, it's just about keeping my job, staying on island, and supporting my U.S. citizen kids," he explained. "I never thought it was going to be this bad."

Zapata noted that traveling to the Philippines is not the primary issue if he is sent home.



THOMAS MANGLONA II

Amor Zapata, 42, worries about his children's future if he is sent back to the Philippines next year.

He is also concerned about the well-being of his children who call the CNMI their home. "This is there home," he said. "This is what they know."

Like many others, Zapata is left with uncertainty and questions about his family's future.

"I'll have a hard time getting a job [in the Philippines]. Surely I will have savings, but how long will that savings last? How could

I send my kids to school? If it comes to that and we need to go home, what can we do?"

Zapata increasingly becomes more concerned about the state of the CNMI if long-term contract workers are forced to leave as each day goes by.

As the islands await an update from Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and federal officials after the 902 talks, Zapata

said that he and others are "thankful for the local government that they are supporting improved status." He added, "They know the importance of long-term workers here who are a part of the community already."

Zapata urges those directly affected to go out in the community and tell their story.

"We have close friends who are directly affected al-

ready. They have invested a lot of themselves here. To just go is something that we never thought will happen. We never thought it will happen. It is hard," he added. "Us who have been here for a long time, who have contributed so much in the community, are being taken out because of the cap...there are so many companies and businesses that need countless workers."

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Scholarly work, research to highlight PCC final day

Educators, scholars, and researchers from across the Pacific had the opportunity to present their work and network with colleagues and peers during the first two days of the ongoing Pacific Circle Consortium.

For the first time, the CNMI is hosting this largest gathering of educators, researchers, and scholars through the joint partnership of the Public School System and Northern Marianas College along the Hawaii-based research think-tank Research Triangle International.

And at 8:30am today at the Saipan Southern High School conference venue, several scholarly works, studies, and research will highlight the third and final day of the PCC, which marks its 40th year.

There are over 200 delegates from over a dozen countries and Pacific islands that are participating in the conference.

From 9am to 10am today, at the general assembly building (SSHS cafeteria) Sesario Sewralur will begin with a highlight presentation: "Connection Between Malama Honua & Micronesian Navigation."

Sewralur is the son of famed master navigator Mau Piailug.

Shortly thereafter, various conference workshops will follow. They are spread at various locations at Saipan Southern High School.

They are:

■ "Native Hawaiians in Engineering, Barriers and Bright Spots" of Althea Ku'uli Serna and Thanh Truc T. Nguyen.

The duo will share findings from the first phase of their study where they surveyed students in engineering, sharing similarities and differences in barriers, support systems,

financial aid, and self-perception of success between Native Hawaiians students and non-Native Hawaiian students.

■ Dr. Richard Seder of Research Triangle International will speak of "What do We Know About What Works? And Why Does it Matter?"

■ Dr. Seder's presentation will explore the different mechanisms by which educators and policymakers seek out and use evidence, and how much is understood about different types of educational interventions.

Another workshop will be

about "Intersections of Identities: Navigating Cultural and Societal Norms Within our Own Communities of Color." This will be presented by Roslyn Leon Guerrero whose presentation is designed to open discussions about the many "oppressive terms and to have an open dialogue about internalizes oppression and racism within our cultures."

Masashii Urabe and Akira Ninomiya will highlight their study about "Second Chance Learning in Higher Education: Seeking for Globally Competent Human Resources in

Japan." This reviews the educational policy about Japan's second chance learning to be able to develop excellent vocational education program.

"The Importance of Text Complexity: The Lexile Framework for Reading and the Students of the Pacific Rim Nations" will be presented by Jason Turner. This is about exploring the Lexile Framework for Reading, a scientific way to match students to texts using a developmental scale.

Another must-attend presentation is NMC's "How

See PCC on Page 4



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HK Airlines launches direct flights to Saipan

Hong Kong Airlines, an internationally acclaimed full-service airline, will exclusively operate twice-weekly direct flight between Hong Kong and Saipan International Airport starting mid-night today.

Airbus A333 aircraft with 292 seats, including 32 business class seats, will be deployed on the route.

Hong Kong Airlines chief commercial officer Li Dian-chun said, "To welcome the amazing summer, we are

delighted that Hong Kong Airlines is launching this Saipan service, offering even more choices to passengers travelling to tropical islands. Boosted with this new service, Hong Kong Airlines will continue to grow our route network in Asia Pacific region, providing more flexible travel options to passengers from around the world, and further strengthening Hong Kong's position as one of the world's major aviation hubs." (PR)

EDUCATORS

From Page 1

in the Pacific region.

Underwood told those in attendance of the imperative-ness of taking ownership of their teaching as well.

"It is so vital to begin the process of learning by learning about yourself. When you do that, you have great ownership," he said.

He explained that the primary job of an educator is to empower people to create and develop more knowledge for themselves and others.

"If you are just an observer of knowledge production or being allowed to participate in someone else's knowledge production, you'll look like an outsider and you'll feel like you're alone. You don't become fully educated," he added.

He reminded the room full of educators of their capacity to assist students in navigating their way through their educational endeavors.

"[We do this] not just for the sake of maintaining indigenous languages and cultures, but because you are shaping people. You are making them more empowered. You're making them more reflective. You're making them better and more effective learners."

Underwood also touched on the subject of cultural heritage in 21st century education. He noted that competition is not the answer when considering the quality of education each district provides. Rather, he explained, "the argument is that knowledge is for all humans to have. No one has exclusive knowledge or exclusive ownership over knowledge."

PCC

From Page 3

Catastrophic Event Can Unite a Campus in Rebuilding a Community." This session will outline how the college, after Typhoon Soudelor struck the island on Aug. 2, 2015, became "a beacon of hope...of strength...of com-

munity service."

A joint presentation by Dr. Seder and Nguyen will also be about "Improvement Science: An Introductory Workshop." This workshop is design in a half-day, interactive format to introduce the improvement science framework and explore how this framework might be applied to participants' problems and contexts. (PR)

WAGE

From Page 1

"Most people are already paying that \$7.25," she went on to say. "Like at the Chamber, our starting is \$8. But in order to compete, we need to increase our wages."

To criticism against business leaders who think the CNMI does not need its contract workers and can hire more local or U.S. workers, Palacios says this is flatly untrue.

"We don't believe that. Because with all these development going on, we need help, whether it is temporary construction workers, we need people to help us. We don't have the local resources. Even though we train everybody, we still would need help," she said.

"There are critics out there that think we don't. They think the business community is suppressing wages. But we are not suppressing the wages. In fact, a lot of our members are paying more than \$6.05, are paying more than the \$7.25, the federal wage. And they are also trying to keep their employees. Everybody needs workers now so we want to keep them."

She believes businesses are increasing wages because of the higher wages the Saipan casino, Best Sunshine International, Ltd., has been offering, so they can keep their employees in place.

"It's competitive right now. Everybody's looking for peo-

ple, for workforce. You want to maintain, retain your employees and the only thing is wage, benefits, and all that. So a lot of people are not paying that \$6.05.

Asked if she felt the business community was ready for the 50-cent raise in minimum wage come September, Palacios again said most business are already paying beyond the \$6.55 wage that will take effect.

"So I think most businesses are prepared for that," she said. "There are businesses, those very small businesses, that may not be able to handle that but a majority of the businesses should have no issues with that \$6.55"

As far as the \$.50 increase Department of Commerce Secretary Mark Rabauliman, who gave an update on their prevailing wage survey at a Chamber meeting yesterday, said this will be reflected on smaller-end businesses as a lot of the bigger businesses are already paying above minimum wage, in terms of its impact.

By impact, he gives the example of mom and pop stores hiring high school workers for work after school at \$6.05, the minimum wage, having to adjust to the 50-cent increase and finding ways to cut costs, for example.

He said in prior increases, business sector had called it detrimental to their bottom line, but "to date, I think everybody is rolling with it."

"As far as impact I can't really say. But everybody seems to be gradually implementing

a lot of that," he added.

To critics of government and businesses that they are not pushing for higher wages, he said that when comparing the CNMI to places like California or Hawaii or even Guam, "it does skew" the argument "because theirs is higher pay wage."

"But in terms of our island economy, I think we are staying in pace to reach that \$7.25 without really damaging our fragile island economy especially the business sector," he said.

As the CW crisis continues...

As the contract worker crisis continues with no news from the federal government on requested "administrative fixes" to alleviate the strain of 1,300 foreign workers being forced to leave the CNMI by the end of this fiscal year due to their applications being rejected against a breached CW cap this year, Palacios and Rabauliman said they continue to hear from the affected on the issue.

Palacios said, relaying information from Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Chris Concepcion, that there concerns with dive operators—who play a part in reviving the Japanese market—having to close shop amidst the CW crisis.

"They are going to leave. They are going to shut down because they don't want to be outside of status unless we do some immediate relief."

She added that employees have been making plans to exit and a humanitarian aspect still remains with what the affected have to do with their kids. "Most of them are leaving. And some of their employers have already started putting in new applications for the fiscal year 2017" cap," she said.

She continues to encourage employees to apply under the H-visa category "for those who can."

Asked how the CNMI government might gauge the impact the departure of contract workers has on the economy, Rabauliman pointed to a "household impact expenditure survey"—geared to begin preliminary survey by the end of this year—that he believes will capture a picture of this impact.

While he hears from the business side of the community about tens of staff leaving the island and while he acknowledges it does impact the economic landscape in terms of taxes, services, for example, he says as for direct impact, he hopes the HIES will give a clear picture.

"Because all of this right now is supposition," he said.

Asked about revenues collected by government, he said this information would belong with the Department of Finance but said he expects to see impact to be for the next fiscal year.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

SUSPECT

From Page 1

counsel will be appointed to serve as counsel for Aldan.

Preliminary hearing will be on July 14 at 9am. Assistant attorney general Matthew Baisley appeared for the government.

Kim-Tenorio learned that Aldan has a pending bench warrant issued by the Superior Court on Oct. 15, 2002, for not appearing at a hearing in a traffic case. The bail was set at \$130 cash.

Kim-Tenorio quashed the bench warrant and ordered the defendant to appear in court today, Thursday, at 9am for arraignment in that traffic case.

Police Detective Jeffrey I. Norita stated in his report that last June 25 at 4:55pm, the Department of Public Safety Central sent a police officer to Sun Palace Hotel in Susupe, where a theft incident was reported.

Norita said the responding police officer gathered that the theft was discovered after a hotel guest approached a front desk staff and informed her that one of the poker machines in the game room did not ac-

cept his money. The guest also noticed that wires were exposed from the front panel of the poker machine.

The front desk observed that wires were exposed, the panel was slightly opened, and money in bills was missing.

Norita said that last Thursday, June 30, he and another detective conducted a follow-up investigation at Sun Palace Hotel, where they met with an employee.

Norita said during the interview he learned that on June 25, from 4pm to 4:30pm, the employee received a call from another hotel staff that one of the poker machines had been tampered.

The employee said when he checked one machine, it showed damage to the front panel and the keyhole had been damaged.

The two employees then reviewed their surveillance footage that captured a male suspect wearing a blue T-shirt with a checkered pair of short pants, blue bush hat, and a blue Under Armour brand backpack.

The employee said when he viewed the surveillance, he observed the suspect open the panel and appear to be reaching into the machine.

Moments later, the suspect closed the panel, moved away from the machine, and tucked an object underneath his armpit.

The suspect placed an object underneath his armpit, placed it inside the backpack, and left the game room.

The employee said he realized that the object that the suspect took was the moneybox that contained a total of \$5,231 in bills.

The employee said that in the morning of June 30, while he was reading the *Saipan Tribune* newspaper, he saw the photos of the suspect on the front page.

The employee asked their guest if he could identify the person on the newspaper.

The guest told the employee that the person on the front page is Dwight Aldan.

Saipan Tribune's June 30 publication carried as top story the two theft cases at Sun Palace Hotel's and at Martha Store's game rooms. Along with the story, were two photos of the suspect and another photo of his get-away car taken from surveillance cameras at the two establishments.

The employee said he then logged onto his Facebook ac-

count and found an old photo of Aldan.

It was through this old photo that the employee managed to identify Aldan as the same person that was captured on the surveillance camera.

It's not clear why detective Norita's report did not include the Martha's Store poker room incident in the case against Aldan. But DPS acting spokesman Jason Tarkong over the weekend disclosed that a Crime Stoppers' tip led to the identification of Aldan as the suspect in the two cases.

Police said in the Martha Store's poker room case, the suspect was able to run away with \$30 in coins last June 28 in the afternoon. The suspect caused damage worth \$500 to one machine.

Except the shirt, the suspect in Martha's Store case was wearing the same attire in the Sun Palace Hotel's game room incident. The suspect was wearing a blue boonie/bush hat with sunglasses on top of the hat, a gray hooded type sweater, checked blue and gray shorts, and slippers.

Police said the suspect drove away in an old model white Toyota Corolla four-door sedan with tinted windows.

2 men arrested for allegedly sexually assaulting 1-year-old, 8-year-old girls

Two men were arrested on Tuesday for allegedly sexually assaulting an 8-year-old and a 1-year-old girl in separate incidents on Saipan.

Gilbert Sablan Pinaula, 44, was arrested in Kagman for sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree, assault and bat-

tery, and disturbing the peace.

Austin Jay Saures Kosam, 22, was arrested in Kannat Tabla for sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree, and assault and battery.

Police Detective Catherine B. Pangelinan stated in her report that in Pinaula's case, the

8-year old girl and her mother were both crying and shaking when they entered a police car that responded to assist them near Cool Laundry in Finasisu last June 29.

In Kosam's case, Pangelinan said the 1-year-old girl was crying in pain as her private part was swollen.

At a hearing yesterday, noting prior criminal convictions, Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio increased to \$30,000 cash bail from the original \$25,000 cash bail imposed on Pinaula.

Kim-Tenorio maintained

the \$20,000 cash bail that the court earlier imposed on Kosam in issuing an arrest warrant.

Assistant public defender Cindy Nesbit was appointed as counsel for Pinaula and Kosam. Assistant attorney general Matthew Baisley appeared as counsel for the government.

Preliminary hearing for Pinaula will be on July 15 at 9am, while for Kosam will be on July 11 at 9am.

In Pinaula's case, detective Pangelinan said a patrol car transported the 8-year-old girl and her mother to the Com-

monwealth Healthcare Center's examination room last June 29.

Pangelinan said in the examination room, the mother was hugging her daughter, and both were crying.

Pangelinan said the mother disclosed that she noticed that her daughter was feeling sick and she knew something was wrong so she begged her to tell her what happened.

The detective said the daughter cried and confessed that Pinaula sexually assaulted her. The girl also disclosed that it was the second time that

the defendant touched her private part.

In Kosam's case, Pangelinan stated that a police officer responded to a residence in Kannat Tabla on Monday night after a woman reported that Kosam sexually assaulted her 1-year-old daughter.

Pangelinan said according to the mother, her baby complained of pain in her vaginal area.

When the mother checked the pampers, the baby started crying and stated that Kosam "touched" her. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Nepartak now super typhoon, but moving farther away from Guam

Tropical Storm Nepartak is now a super typhoon, but fortunately it's moving farther away Guam and will not make landfall in the Philippines.

According to the U.S. National Weather Service in Guam, packing maximum sustained winds at 160 miles per hour, Super Typhoon Nepartak was moving west-northwest at 21mph as of 2pm yesterday.

Nepartak's center was 295 miles southeast of Taipei, 515 miles south of Okinawa, 880 miles northwest of Yap, and 1,090

miles west-northwest of Guam.

Nepartak is anticipated to continue intensifying through Thursday, will pass near west-northwest Philippines, then will take toward Taiwan on Thursday afternoon.

The typhoon force winds extend outward up to 45 miles from the center and tropical storm force winds extend outward up to 195 miles from the center.

A tropical cyclone becomes a super typhoon when its maximum sustained winds reach 150mph or more. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

CUC announces slew of water service interruptions

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. customers in Upper and Lower Dandan, As Lito, Obyan, Chalan Monsignor Martinez Road and Airport Road will experience a temporary water service interruption today, July 7, from 8am to 4pm due to a leak on the 6" transmission line.

A Leak Detection personnel discovered the leak when conducting leak detection services in the area this morning. Repair personnel are scheduled to conduct repairs this morning and are anticipated to be

completed by 4pm. Customers in the Upper Dandan and Obyan areas should expect restoration of services soon thereafter. Customers in As Lito, Chalan Monsignor Martinez Road, and Airport Road should expect restoration of services on Friday, July 8, 2016, as per water hour schedule.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (<https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/>). *(PR)*

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If you need the report translated, wish to speak with someone about the report, or would like a paper copy delivered or emailed to you, please call CUC at (670) 664-4282.

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Put fabot hânáo para i <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/CCR-2015.pdf> para u ma'atan hâfa na contaminants manmasodda' gi halum hanom-mu gi 2015 yan para un tung'u mäs put i hanum magimin. Esti na ripot ha sasahuan siha manimpottânti na imfotmasion put i source yan kuálidât i hanum magimin.

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Gillespie wants to revive NMI Boy Scouts program

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Wayne Gillespie is attempting to revive the Boy Scouts program in the CNMI and is asking members of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce for any assistance in completing his goal. The scouting program in the CNMI existed in the 1970s as part of the Honolulu-based Aloha Council.

Hawaii, American Samoa, the CNMI, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Palau are part of the Boys Scouts of America's Aloha Council, which has the largest geographical area of the Scout Movement.

Gillespie, who is also a pastor of the local Salvation Army, said he wanted to have two to three units up in a couple of weeks so he could help organize a summer camp before the opening of the school year.

"Hopefully, I would be able to charm or encourage some businesses here in my attempt to resurrect the district. I plan to have at least one or two [Boy Scouts] units here in the CNMI," said Gillespie, who was the Saipan Chamber of Commerce monthly meeting's third speaker at the Kanoa Re-

sort's Seaside Hall yesterday.

He said that the Scouting program teaches the youth to maintain good morals, ethics, and how to make critical and honest decisions that they could use for the rest of their lives. Volunteers will also be needed once the units are organized.

"That's why I'm asking local businesses, institutions, or churches for their help in organizing new units. Generally, we need four troop leaders but two is okay for Cubs and Boys Scouts. Women are also welcome to volunteer," said Gillespie.

"We have volunteers before but the problem is they got busy with work and some with their businesses. We will also need Merit Badge counselors since there's a large variety of badges that can be awarded to the scouts," Gillespie added.

He said that it would not be a problem if the volunteer wasn't a scout. "It's not a problem if you have not joined the Scouting Movement or did not become a scout. The kids need adult supervision and that's one of the roles of a scout leader."

Volunteers, however, will be subjected to a background check to see if they are an al-



Gillespie

coholic, a drug addict, or have other criminal offenses.

Gillespie said that it would only cost businesses or other sponsors a little amount in helping would-be scouts. "Scouts usually pay for their own membership and camping fees, and buy their own uniforms. But it would only cost you very little amount."

"The [Aloha] Council allowed us to have our own uniforms as long as we follow the colors blue and yellow for the Cub Scouts. You could go to the local seamstress to make the uniforms or have T-shirts where you could put your business logo with the troop number at the back."

The CNMI Scouts, once formed, can also help in the Marianas Visitors Authority's Beautify My Marianas campaign with beach cleanups where they could earn \$100. "They could also help in various community projects," added Gillespie.

Century Travel president David M. Sablan is one of the first members of the Scouting Movement in Micronesia when he was still in Guam, while *Marianas Variety* publisher Laila Younis-Boyer is a former Girls Scout.

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Man gets 1-year probation sentence for failing to report \$40K cash in luggage

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tsunemasa Otsuji, a Japan-bound passenger who was arrested last May 17 for allegedly carrying \$40,000 cash in his luggage without declaring the currency at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, has entered a guilty plea in federal court and was sentenced to probation for one year.

Otsuji, through his counsel Colin Thompson, on Friday afternoon pleaded guilty to the information charging him with one count of failure to report exporting monetary instruments.

Thompson read for the record defendant's medical certification.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona received the medical certification record and ordered it be filed under seal.

Manglona ordered the defendant to pay a \$2,000 fine and \$100 in court assessment fee.

Manglona ordered that based on the plea agreement, Otsuji forfeit his interest in \$20,000 out of the \$40,000 that was seized from him at the time of his arrest.

The judge granted assistant U.S. attorney Russell H. Lorf-

ing's motion to dismiss the indictment and vacated the jury trial set for Aug. 23, 2016.

The indictment charged the defendant with one count of bulk cash smuggling out of the United States.

Otsuji waived his right to prosecution by indictment and consented to prosecution by information.

The information charged the defendant with one count of failure to report exporting monetary instruments.

Lorfing recommended a one-year probation sentence. He moved for a preliminary order of forfeiture in the

amount of \$20,000 and stated that this amount would be taken out of the \$40,000 that was confiscated.

Thompson concurred with the U.S. government's recommendation and did not object to the forfeiture of \$20,000.

Thompson informed the court that Otsuji would be leaving the island voluntarily.

According to the information, on May 16, 2016, on Saipan, Otsuji knowingly attempted to transport more than \$10,000 in currency and other monetary instruments from a place within the United States to a place outside of the U.S.

At the time Otsuji attempted to transport the currency, he knew that he was required to report currency in excess of \$10,000 to the Secretary of Treasury but knowingly failed to file such a report in violation of the law.

Federal agents served Otsuji with an arrest warrant last May 17 after the Department of Homeland Security filed a criminal complaint charging him with one count of bulk cash smuggling.

Otsuji then posted bail.

DHS Homeland Security Investigations special agent Everett Route stated in an affidavit that on May 16 he received a call from supervisory U.S. Customs and Border Protection Officer Mark Layman about Otsuji, who during a screening process had been flagged with carrying undeclared currency possibly over \$10,000.

Otsuji was scheduled to depart from the Saipan International Airport last May 16 at 4:30pm aboard Delta Airlines flight #297, and fly directly to Narita, Japan.

Route said during a con-

sent search of Otsuji's golf bag, a CBP officer found eight 100 bundles of \$50 bills equaling \$5,000 each and totaling \$40,000.

The money was wrapped inside four pamphlets inside the golf bag.

Route said according to Otsuji the money was given to him by Yamaguchi, who allegedly owns a construction and real estate company in Japan.

Route said Otsuji claimed that Yamaguchi asked him to carry the money back to Japan for him.

Otsuji stated that Yamaguchi was also traveling back to Japan on the same flight with him and that he did not know why he did not carry the money himself.

He said Yamaguchi asked him to carry the money and give it back to him when they got to Japan.

Otsuji stated he did not know he had to declare the money on Saipan, but that he would declare the amount in Japan.

Route said asked why he put "\$0" in the form, Otsuji explained he did not read the form carefully.

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/S/ FRANK M. RABULIMAN
ADMINISTRATOR OF BECQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

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RFP: RFP 16-CCC-135**

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/S/ EDWARD C. DELEON GUERRERO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

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LibDay Parade lineup showcases CNMI's unique culture

Fourth of July will forever be a special day for CNMI, the day when the people were liberated from Camp Susupe 71 years ago in 1945. The 2016 CNMI Liberation Day festivities and its theme "Our Island, Our Heritage" was focused on celebrating the independence of the island and pay tribute to the veterans who fought for the independence. This year, Skywalker Communications Group, in collaboration with Saipan Mayor's Office and Liberation Day committee, organized the most memorable parade, showcasing the culture of the CNMI and attracting the biggest audience in the history of CNMI.

It was not long ago that Saipan was experiencing a major crisis. Eleven months ago, Typhoon Soudelor almost destroyed the whole community, affecting the daily lives of the islanders. But, just like its history, the people of Saipan, didn't give up and in 11 months managed to rebuild the community and infrastructure, which was clearly evident at the parade.

This year, 51 marchers and floats participated at the parade. Credit goes to Saipan Mayor's Office and Skywalker Communications for organizing the event at such a large scale, as well as KKMP for hosting the event. Like previous years, the parade started from the National Office Supply. Beach Road was packed with audiences as Apatang led the parade followed by Dr. Bo Hu, president of Skywalker Communications, major sponsor and organizer of the 2016 CNMI Liberation

Day Festivities. Right behind them was Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and first lady Dianne Torres, followed by Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog as well as the dignitaries. As they approached the grand stage, located right across the Garapan Fishing Base, they stepped out of the parade to take their seat at the stage to watch the parade. The parade was broadcasted live by Skywalker Communications and ITE on the CNMI Liberation Day Facebook page.

As the marchers went past the grand stage, each of them performed in front of the stage, which generated a festive vibe and provided entertainment from the crowd. The beautiful performances of the Japanese Association of Saipan, as well as the Chinese and Korean associations showed how diverse the island is, and the pride that Saipan takes for its diversity. The parade ground attracted a lot of tourists from all over the world who travelled from different countries just to attend the event and witness the unique and diverse culture of the CNMI.

Meanwhile, the Liberation Day Parade has unique traditions that have been observed for a long time. One of them is the CNMI Royal Court paying respect at the 13 Fishermen's Memorial in memory of the 13 men who perished at sea. The tradition of paying respect to the 13 fishermen started on July 4, 2004, during the reign of then Miss CNMI Liberation Queen, Mrs. Leiana Ogu-moro-Saures. On that day the truck that was pulling the float suddenly turned off by the old Naked Fish on Beach Road,

Garapan before it reached the 13 Fishermen's memorial. So the queen decided to walk and meet the people from both sides of the road and talk to them and take pictures, as well as pay their respects to the elders. Future Royal Courts have followed Leiana's tradition and have walked toward the reviewing stand ever since.

The floats are a major attraction of the Liberation Day Parade. This year the floats truly reflected the theme "Our Island, Our heritage" with beautiful and unique designs that represented their



Members of the 2016 CNMI Royal Court went down their float and laid flowers at the 13 Fishermen Monument to pay their respects to the 13 fishermen who perished decades ago.

community. Last year's float winner was again among the favorites of this year's float competition, yet again building a unique float that speaks volumes about its culture. The U.S. Air Force decided to participate in the parade as well by sending a B-52 plane to fly over the parade ground, all the way from their Guam base.

This year's parade represented how the island was rebuilt again after the typhoon, with many businesses participating in the parade showing the community that life in the CNMI is back to normal. **(PR)**

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/S/ ROBERT H. HUNTER
SECRETARY OF DC&CA

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

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CNMI GOVERNMENT**

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ITB NO.: ITB16-OVR-133

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DIRECTOR OF OVR

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DIRECTOR, P&S

Opinion

Hafa Adai! Saipan Tribune

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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

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EDITORIAL

Authorize force against the Islamic State—and set limits

Once again, the world has been reminded of the global threat of Islamic extremism, as news came last week of yet another terrorist attack. Suicide bombers attacked the Istanbul Ataturk Airport, leaving at least 41 dead and over 200 wounded. Our thoughts are with all those affected by such a senseless act of violence.

In recent years these scenes are becoming all too common. In just the past eight months, the cities of Brussels, Orlando, Paris and San Bernardino have been shaken by vicious acts of terrorism motivated by a distinct ideology and carried out by those claiming allegiance to the Islamic State. Though it is not confirmed at this time that the attack in Istanbul follows this directly, it is clearly driven by the same level of disregard for human life and the desire to terrorize innocent people.

Regrettably, the recurrence of such incidents has done little to spark coherent, focused national discussion about what to do about these acts of terror. The attacks here at home only spurred a predictably partisan agenda and the attacks in Europe have done little to push policymakers into developing an actual set of objectives.

The inability of our political leaders to move beyond poll-tested, knee-jerk reactions and to thoughtfully engage on what is a matter of life and death for people around the world comes to the detriment of national and international security. Contrary to the wishes of Donald Trump, who wants to “fight fire with fire,” banning groups of people from entering the United States or relying on the use of torture does not constitute serious contributions to what is an extremely serious matter.

In the 15 years since the 9/11 attacks, we have learned that the wholesale sacrificing of civil liberties does little to make us safer and even less to undermine the threat of Islamic extremism. If anything, our push for regime change in nations like Libya, Iraq and Syria, without a clear strategy or vision of what comes next, has only made us less safe.

What is desperately needed is a clear set of objectives for combating those who pose a threat to our national security. To this end, Congress has abdicated its responsibility to hold substantive discussions about how to deal with the threat of Islamic terrorism. Instead, Congress has been content to allow President Barack Obama to rely on the 2001 authorization for use of military force against those responsible for the 9/11 attacks to justify seemingly any and all military commitments, without clearly delineated aims or limits.

“If this Congress is serious about winning this war, and wants to send a message to our troops and the world, authorize the use of military force against ISIL,” directed President Obama of the Congress during his last State of the Union Address. “Take a vote.”

See **AUTHORIZE** on Next Page

Party platform is good start, but there's more to do

The Democratic Party platform drafted in St. Louis is an excellent start in bringing forth policies that will help end the 40-year decline of the American middle class. These initiatives, if implemented, will create millions of good-paying jobs, significantly improve health care and reverse the dangerous trend in this country toward an oligarchic form of society. But, let us be clear, this is a document that needs to be significantly improved by the full Platform Committee meeting in Orlando on Friday and Saturday.

Here are some very positive provisions in the platform as it stands today:

At a time when huge Wall Street financial institutions are bigger now than they were before the taxpayers of this country bailed them out, the platform calls for enacting a 21st-century Glass-Steagall Act and for breaking up too-big-to-fail banks.

The platform calls for a historic expansion of Social Security, closes loopholes that allow corporations to avoid paying taxes, creates millions of jobs rebuilding our crumbling infrastructure, makes it easier for workers to join unions, takes on the greed of the pharmaceutical companies, ends disastrous deportation raids, bans private prisons and detention centers, abolishes the death penalty, moves to automatic voter registration and the public financing of elections, eliminates super PACs, and urges passage of a constitutional amendment to overturn Citizens United, among many other initiatives.

These are all major accomplishments that will begin to move this country in the right direction. I congratulate Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-Md.), chairman of the Platform Drafting Committee, and all 15 members of the panel for their hard work.

But, unfortunately, there were a number of vitally important proposals brought forth by the delegates from our campaign that were not adopted. My hope is that a grassroots movement of working people, environmentalists, and human-rights advocates will work with us to demand that the Democratic Party include these initiatives in the platform to be adopted by the full committee in Orlando.

We need to have very clear language that raises the minimum wage to \$15 an hour, ensures that the promised pensions of millions of Americans will not be cut, establishes a tax on carbon, and creates a ban on fracking. These and other amendments will be offered in Florida.

Further, one of the most important amendments that we will

By **BERNIE SANDERS**

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Bernie Sanders, a candidate for president, is a U.S. senator from Vermont. He wrote this for the Philadelphia Inquirer.



offer is to make it clear that the Democratic Party is strongly opposed to the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

In my view, the Democratic Party must go on record in opposition to holding a vote on this disastrous, unfettered free-trade agreement during the lame-duck session of Congress and beyond.

Frankly, I do not understand why the amendment our delegates offered on this issue in St. Louis was defeated with all of Hillary Clinton's committee members voting against it. I don't understand that because Clinton, during the campaign, made it very clear that she did not want to see the TPP appear on the floor during the lame-duck session.

If both Clinton and I agree that the TPP should not get to the floor of Congress this year, it's hard to understand why an amendment saying so would not be overwhelmingly passed.

Let's be clear: The trade agreement is opposed by virtually the entire grassroots base of the Democratic Party.

Every trade union in this country is strongly opposed to the pact. They understand that this agreement will make it easier for corporations to throw American workers out on the street and move factories to Vietnam, where workers are paid 65 cents an hour.

Virtually every major environmental group is opposed to the TPP because they understand that it will make it easier for the biggest polluters in the world to continue despoiling our planet.

Major religious groups are opposed because they understand that it will reward some of the biggest human-rights violators in the world.

Doctors Without Borders is strongly opposed to this agreement because its members understand that it would increase prescription-drug prices for some of the most desperate people

See **PARTY** on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

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The choice we face

In the presidential race, July is convention month. Each party selects its ticket — the nominees for president and vice president — and the choice becomes clear. For all the noise about a Republican revolt against Donald Trump, we already know the choice we will face: Hillary Clinton against Donald Trump. This campaign has already turned nasty, but looking beyond the clamor there are some things we know.

Hillary Clinton is the most experienced and prepared of the two candidates. An attorney, former first lady, senator and secretary of state, she is one of the most experienced candidates for the presidency ever. She will be ready from day one. She knows up close what it takes to be president, how to put together and run an administration.

Donald Trump is one of the least prepared candidates in memory. He has not held public office. He has little experience in foreign and national security issues. His major previous relationship with the legislators he must deal with is, as he tells us, as

a donor, a businessman seeking favors. He's amassed a fortune in business, but he seems better as a salesman than an administrator. He's certainly had a hard time putting together a professional campaign staff or organizing a political convention.

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Hillary Clinton is a progressive; her candidacy builds on the progressive movements of our time. She is a lifelong champion of women and children. She supports equal rights for people, regardless of race, religion, gender or sexual preference. She's for overturning Citizens United and limiting big

money in politics. She's for reviving the Voting Rights Act and removing barriers to voting. She'll push to raise the minimum wage, to fund our schools, to make college more affordable, to expand access to health care. She will push for public investment to rebuild our country and put people to work. She's for raising taxes on the wealthy, cracking down on corporate tax dodges, making Wall Street more accountable, empowering workers and curbing CEO abuses. She may not be as bold a reformer as Bernie Sanders is, but there is no doubt she is a progressive who believes in a government on the side of working people.

Trump, by contrast, is a bit of an unknown, at odds with his past and his party. We know he'll cut taxes on the rich and corporations. We know he wants to build a wall on the Mexican border. He's run a divisive campaign, filled with racial insult and nativist appeal. He says he's

By JESSE JACKSON

Tribune News Service

You can write to the Rev. Jesse Jackson in care of this newspaper or by email at jjackson@rainbowpush.org. Follow him on Twitter @RevJJackson.



against our trade deals but offers as an alternative only that he'd get a better deal. He promises to rip up the nuclear weapons agreement with Iran, which would give the zealots in that country the license and the incentive to build nuclear weapons. He says he wants to rebuild the country, but gives us no sense about how he would pay for it, other than the infamous wall that he says Mexico will pay for.

Both Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump are viewed unfavorably by large numbers of Americans, with Trump setting records in that regard. Clinton bears the burden of right-wing political attacks that go back to the early 1990s (and before that in Arkansas). Every misstep has been inflated into a scandal, every misstatement into an indictment. Trump started the campaign as a celebrity, rose through notoriety and earned his disfavor by insulting wide sectors of the American people. Despite these unfavorable polls, both won the nomination by winning the most votes in the primaries.

Now we have a choice. The most experienced against the least experienced. The progressive against the conservative. Someone who seeks to bring us together against someone who has risen by tearing us apart.

There is a long way to go before November. Events and the campaigns will tell us more, but the choice is already clear.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

What are disabilities?

My name is Nicole Deleon Guerrero and I am currently working as an intern at the Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NMPASI) as part of my on-the-job training (OJT) through the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR). I am receiving services through OVR as a person with an anxiety disorder. I chose to work at NMPASI because I hope to gain experience as a receptionist/data entry specialist and I wanted to learn more about how NMPASI helps people with disabilities.

I found out that one of NMPASI's goals and priorities is "to advance the understanding of and appreciation for Protection & Advocacy services and disability-related issues in the CNMI" and that the staff have challenged each other to submit disability-related information for print in our local newspapers. They encouraged me to write something as well—this will be my first attempt to write anything for the newspaper.

I did a little research of my own and wanted to get our community involved, so I went ahead and sent random emails to different people asking each of them what knowledge they have on disability overall.

First of all, disability as defined by Google is the consequence of an impairment that may be physical, cognitive, intellectual, mental, sensory, developmental, or some combination of these that results in restrictions on an individual's ability to participate in what is considered "normal" in their everyday society. Another definition as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is that it's a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.

The definitions for disabilities mostly talk about limitations of a person, although there are many practices today that could make their living somewhat normal, depending on the type of disability each individual has.

As you read through you'll find some of my results from different people who participated in my email inquiry.

■■■

Name: Andrew Burnette

Occupation: Medic U.S. Army

"My thoughts on disability are if someone is truly suffering

from a disability whether mental or physical we as a society have an obligation to help these individuals. If that help is from employment opportunities or home care. No one wants to have a disability so we should do all we can to help them with their needs."

Name: Elias Q. Saralu Jr.

Occupation: Police Officer III, Department Of Public Safety
1 "A disabled person is a special person with special needs."
2. "Disability is a condition that restricts or limits an individual from their physical or mental capabilities."

Name: Jocelyn Aldan

Occupation: Manager at Jiang Zheng Group Inc. Real Estate Company

"What I know about people with disabilities. I know that they go through a lot of things. From being bullied, mocked around, and misunderstood. If people were to stop all of that and try to know them, maybe they will be surprised. People with disabilities have harder ways to be in the society just because of people misunderstanding them. Also being judgmental and not knowing the person has a disability."

Name: Darlene Aldan

Occupation: Administrative secretary for Rep. Joseph Lee "Pan" Guerrero

"Disability to my understanding is an impairment that a person is born with. It can appear in many ways. To name a few there are physical, mental, sensory, and developmental growth. These impairments cause limited abilities to an individual to participate with their daily lives in which we also know as "normal living." To how disabilities occur I have yet to understand fully. Some say it is possible by genetics, consumptions or emotional ways of a woman during pregnancy, a baby's growth and position while in the womb, and a woman impregnated at an older age from the late 30s and above. I believe the special benefits and leniency on living required by law for people with disabilities are fair for all communities, for they are not to blame for an abnormal living. And that they should all be treated equally as a normal person with respect, understanding and dignity. We see them as one less ability in living than others or we can look at it the other way and say we are entitled to give an extra ability to help our loved ones with special needs."

■■■

As I read more on the subject and the different types of dis-

abilities, I came across finding out the common causes of disabilities which can happen from accidents, birth, diseases, aging, and lifestyle choices. I also read more on People's First Language, and I think everyone should know that we as a society emphasize the person and not their diagnosis.

It was really exciting and interesting to find out how well our community is educated on this subject. I was so happy to see on how quick everyone responded and replied whether it was through email or me asking personally. I really appreciate how everyone wanted to be involved.

I thank each and everyone who participated. God Bless!

For more information about disabilities, please contact NMPASI at 235-7273/4 or visit us online at www.nmpasi.org.

Nicole H. Deleon Guerrero

NMPASI intern

PARTY

From Page 10

in the world by making it harder to access generic drugs.

This agreement also threatens our democracy. We cannot give multinational corporations the ability to challenge our nation's labor and environmental laws simply because they might reduce expected future profits through the very flawed Investor State Dispute Settlement system. That would undermine the democratic values that our country was founded on.

During the coming days and weeks our campaign will be reaching out to grassroots America to do all that we can to oppose the TPP and make sure that it doesn't get passed.

AUTHORIZE

From Page 10


Today, that request seems more reasonable than ever. Congress must fulfill its constitutional obligations and vote to authorize the use of force against the Islamic State. In so doing, a strategy for defeating this terrorist nation must be mindful of American values and place American national security first. But the time is now. Let's not wait for things to get worse.

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The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian


TODAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲90° ▼80°


FRIDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲89° ▼80°


SATURDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲89° ▼80°


SUNDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲89° ▼80°

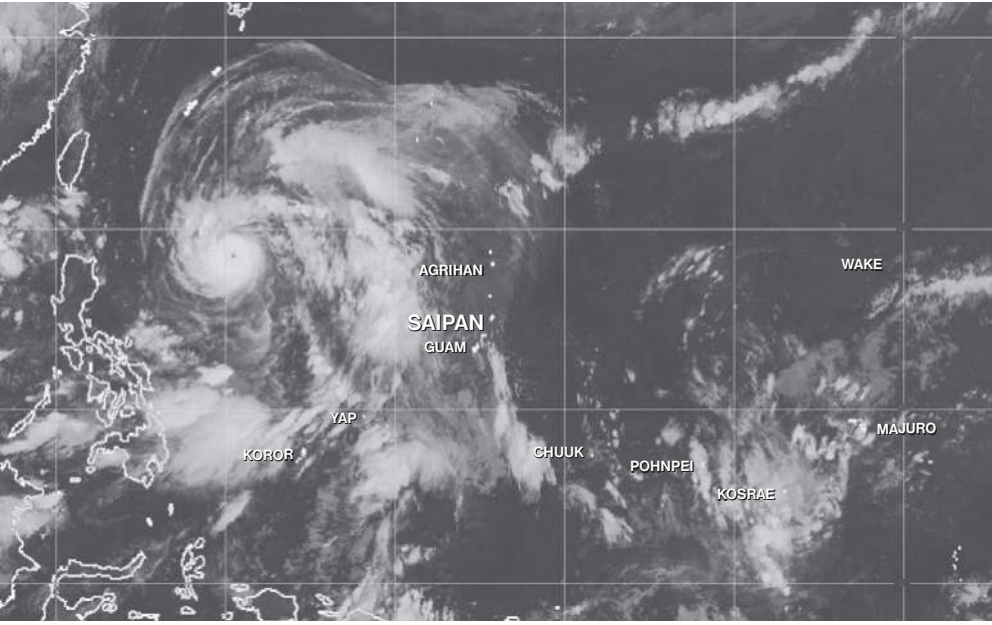
MONDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲89° ▼80°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 2016


Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Super typhoon Nepartak (O2W) is centered approximately 280 miles southeast of Taiwan near 19N130E moving west-northwest at 21 mph with maximum sustained winds of 160 mph. Heavy rain and thunderstorms are within 100 miles of the center. Also, scattered showers and thunderstorms are located primarily north of the center from 20N to 22N and west of 134E. Elsewhere, an extended band of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are located back towards the Marianas from 13N to 25N between 136E and 141E. For more information on super typhoon Nepartak, see bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW and your local weather service. Converging monsoon southwesterly winds south of the typhoon are causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms across Palau and Yap from 6N to 11N and west of 142E. Another small region of scattered showers from the tail of Nepartak is located between Chuuk and Guam within 50 miles of a lines from 6N148E to 14N145E. An area of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms within a weak surface trough is located from 3N to 10N between 151E and 153E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Thunderstorms	▼84	▲90
Palau	Thunderstorms	▼80	▲85
Yap	Partly Sunny	▼77	▲89
Chuuk	Partly Sunny	▼80	▲88
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	▼77	▲87
Kosrae	Sunny	▼82	▲87
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▼82	▲86

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Showers	▼54	▲58
Beijing	Sunny	▼65	▲94
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	▼83	▲91
Honolulu	Clear	▼74	▲83
London	Clear	▼59	▲71
Los Angeles	Clear	▼62	▲77
Manila	Mostly Cloudy	▼82	▲88
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	▼49	▲56
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▼82	▲90
New York	Partly Sunny	▼78	▲92
Osaka	Clear	▼72	▲92
Paris	Clear	▼54	▲76
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▼74	▲84
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▼66	▲94
Salem	Cloudy	▼59	▲72
San Francisco	Clear	▼55	▲65
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▼66	▲83
Tokyo	Showers	▼73	▲93
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▼74	▲92



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
3:53 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.04 Feet
8:42 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.89 Feet
3:59 PM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.32 Feet
10:51 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.97 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	5:52 AM	6:52 PM
Friday	5:52 AM	6:52 PM
Saturday	5:53 AM	6:52 PM
Sunday	5:53 AM	6:52 PM
Monday	5:53 AM	6:52 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	8:15 AM	9:08 PM
Friday	9:08 AM	9:52 PM
Saturday	9:59 AM	10:33 PM
Sunday	10:48 AM	11:13 PM
Monday	11:36 AM	11:51 PM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 6, 2016

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM	PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4	UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM	PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/2925	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR	UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM				
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM	HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR	HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM				
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM	STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.			
HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7	TINIAN TO SAIPAN			6:30PM 6:45PM Daily
				DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY			
				6:30AM 6:45AM Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat			
				SAIPAN TO TINIAN			6:00PM 6:15PM Daily
				DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY			
				7:30AM 7:45AM Daily			
				8:30AM 8:45AM Daily			
				9:30AM 9:45AM Daily			
				10:30AM 10:45AM Daily			
				11:30AM 11:45AM Daily			
				12:30NN 12:45NN Daily			
				1:30PM 1:45PM Daily			
				2:30PM 2:45PM Daily			
				3:30PM 3:45PM Daily			
				4:30PM 4:45PM Daily			
				5:30PM 5:45PM Daily			
				SAIPAN TO ROTA			7:45AM 8:15AM Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
				DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY			
				7:00AM 7:15AM Daily			
				8:00AM 8:15AM Daily			
				9:00AM 9:15AM Daily			
				10:00AM 10:15AM Daily			
				11:00AM 11:15AM Daily			
				12:00NN 12:15NN Daily			
				1:00PM 1:15PM Daily			
				2:00PM 2:15PM Daily			
				3:00PM 3:15PM Daily			
				4:00PM 4:15PM Daily			
				5:00PM 5:15PM Daily			
				ROTA TO SAIPAN			4:00PM 4:30PM Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
				DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY			
				8:30AM 9:00AM Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat			
				4:45PM 5:15PM Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat			

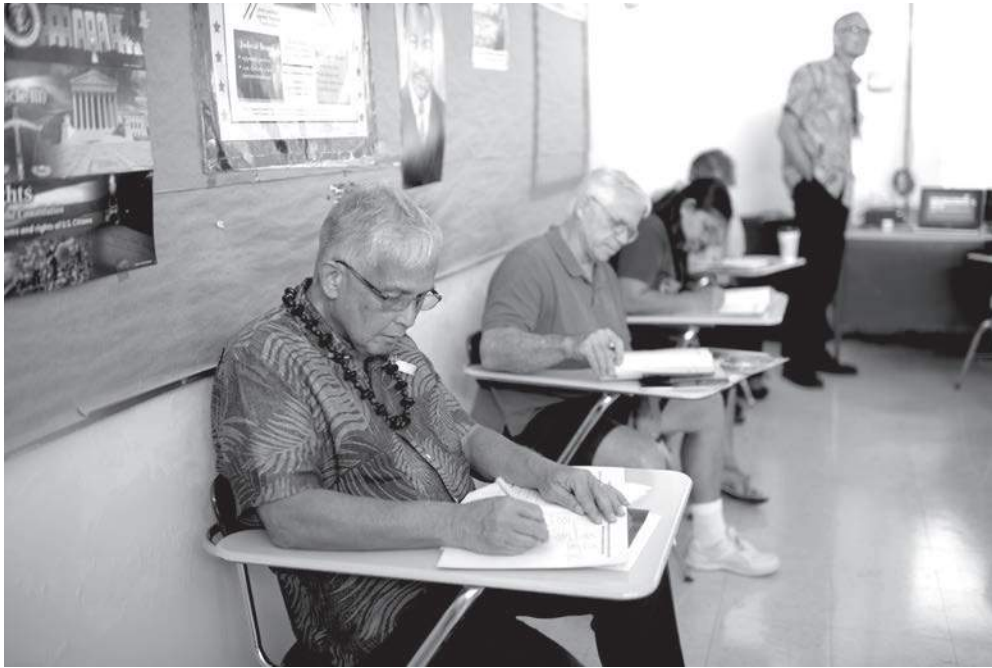
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

Conference of the Pacific Circle Consortium begins

The 40th Annual Conference of the Pacific Circle Consortium, hosted by the Public School System, Northern Marianas College, and RTI

International, began this week at the Saipan Southern High School. The conference drew participants from Japan, New Zealand, Australia, Taiwan,

U.S. mainland, Hawaii, South Korea, Palau, Guam, and other Pacific nations and territories. These photos are from the second day of the conference. (PR)



PSS-NMC

University of Guam president Robert Underwood and James Feger of Marianas High School completes a family tree activity project during one of the sessions at the Pacific Circle Consortium.



PSS-NMC

Rep. Ramon Tebuteb, NMC interim president David Attao, University of Guam president Dr. Robert Underwood, and Public School System Board of Education chair Herman Guerrero pose for a photo during the welcome dinner for Pacific Circle Consortium delegates.



PSS-NMC

Dr. Robert Underwood, University of Guam president, delivers the morning keynote address at the Pacific Circle Consortium. His presentation was entitled, "Cultural Heritage in Pacific 21st Century Schools: What is the Point."



PSS-NMC

Members of the Pacific Circle Consortium Executive Committee rode on canoes with members of the Saipan Paddling Club to the welcome dinner sponsored by the Office of the Saipan Mayor.



PSS-NMC

Dr. Masashi Urabe from Japan gives a presentation on Second Chance Learning in Germany at the Pacific Circle Consortium.



PSS-NMC

Participants react during a light moment during a session presented by NMC Dean of Academic Programs and Services Barbara Merfalen, Dr. Faye Untalan, Dr. Ignacia Demapan, and Charlotte Cepeda on the Chamorro Language Post-Secondary Project.



PSS-NMC

The Registration Team for the Pacific Circle Consortium ensured that the registration process was smooth and efficient for all the delegates.

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Dahdoul Playtime 4x6 Area Rug

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Essential Home Kendall Bench

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1200 Series 4 Piece Sheet Set Full Size

\$13⁹⁵

Maxi Climber

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American Plastic Toy Folding Slide

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MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

MVA conducts FAM tour with Jin Air

The Marianas Visitors Authority and Jin Air held a FAM (familiarization) tour for industry partners on June 16-19, 2016, to add coverage and value to the carrier's new, non-stop Incheon-Saipan flight. The FAM tour provided hands-on travel experience of the Northern Marianas and updated participants about major upcoming events in the islands.

Twelve individuals participated in the tour, including Jin Air vice president for Network & Sales Division Kwang Ho Ko and senior manager Hyun Soo Lee, Hana Tour director Yong Hyun Kwon, Mode Tour director Kyong Soo Yeom, and representatives of other major travel agencies and DFS. All of the participants were managing directors playing a key role in their respective companies.

Golf at Laolao Bay Golf Resort and Coral Ocean Point Resort Club was featured during the FAM. The group visited northern Saipan to sightsee at Banzai Cliff, Suicide Cliff, Bird Island Lookout, and other scenic sites. Inspections of Kensington Hotel and Best Sunshine International, Ltd. training casino were conducted.

"For some of the participants, it was their first time to visit the islands, and they returned with a great im-

pression of the Northern Mariana Islands," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "They

were amazed with our beautiful and pristine nature, the great scenery of our golf courses, and the new devel-

opments taking place in the islands."

Participating travel agencies were Hana Tour, Mode Tour, Hanjin Tour,

YB Tour, Very

Good Tour, KRT, Jau Tour, Online Tour, and Jinitel.

The FAM tour was also supported by Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants in a FAM tour organized by the Marianas Visitors Authority and Jin Air on June 16-19, 2016, enjoy a round of golf at Coral Ocean Point Resort Club during their visit to Saipan.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants in a FAM tour organized by the Marianas Visitors Authority and Jin Air on June 16-19, 2016, enjoy the dinner show at Fiesta Resort & Spa during their visit to Saipan.

Pacific-wide storytelling initiative launched

Honolulu-Pacific Resources for Education and Learning announced the launch of the Pacific Storytellers Cooperative, an Internet platform for place-based stories from the Pacific Islands to be shared with a global audience. This multimedia effort embraces the rich Pacific storytelling heritage and brings it into the Internet age.

"This project seeks to find the nexus between oral traditions of our island communities and present-day modalities of communication, especially among youth of the Pacific," said the project's founder and director Dan Lin, a senior research and policy

specialist at PREL. "Storytelling is a very embedded part of Pacific culture and Indigenous cultures generally. We want to encourage the younger generations to take up the mantle of

telling stories and to take advantage of greater levels of connectivity and improved technical capacity—which exists even in remote places."

The cooperative accepts submissions in all forms from Indigenous Pacific Islanders and residents including written stories, photos, videos, and poetry. An editorial advisory group composed of volunteers from across the region will serve as con-

tent curators and submissions will be edited for clarity and length. "As long as someone is willing to tell a story. We're willing to help them be heard." Lin stated.

The project originated when Lin, who is a regular contributor to National Geographic and the Associated Press, as well as a crewmember on Hokulea's Worldwide Voyage, saw a need for an accessible and inclusive digital storytelling platform.

"Within the Pacific, indigenous communities are too used to someone else telling stories on their behalf," he observed. "It's time to reclaim the role of tellers of our own stories, which is critical for bridging the gaps between generations."

Renowned Marshallese poet, activist, and Pacific Storytellers Cooperative collaborator Kathy Jetnil-Kijiner affirmed the Cooperative's importance in an email statement.

"This project sees the value in the art form, as well as in other mediums such as using film and social media, and I'm excited that we've been able to reach youth in the Marshall Islands, Guam and Saipan so far. I'm really looking forward to getting this project to other parts of the Pacific as well," she said.

The Pacific Storytellers Cooperative is currently supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation to PREL. The cooperative anticipates seeking additional funding sources within the coming year.

The project website is available at storytellers.prel.org.

PREL is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that enhances community well-being through partnerships in education in the U.S.-Affiliated Pacific Islands. Founded in 1990 and headquartered in Honolulu, PREL serves American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Hawaii, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia, and Palau. (PR)

Coast Guard rescues 3 boaters, search continues for 3 missing fishermen off Oahu

HONOLULU—The U.S. Coast Guard rescued three boaters attempting to assist in the search and rescue case for three missing fishermen off of the North Shore of Oahu, Monday.

An MH-65 Dolphin helicopter crew from Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point hoisted three men aboard and safely transported them to Haleiwa Boat Harbor. A fourth man was able to swim to shore.

One of the four men is being treated by local emergency medical services personnel for hypothermia. No other injuries were reported.

The boater's 30-foot recreation vessel reportedly capsized and sank while they attempted to tow the 20-foot Iwa, a capsized and adrift vessel from an earlier search and rescue case.

Watchstanders at the Coast Guard Sector Honolulu command center received a relayed call at 8:35 p.m., from dispatchers at the Honolulu Fire Department reporting they received a mayday call stating the boaters were sinking and abandoning ship. The mayday call was abruptly cut off after the notification.

Shortly after, watchstanders at the Coast Guard Joint Rescue Coordination Center received an emergency position indicating radio beacon alert in the vicinity of the North Shore, correlating with the mayday report. Watchstanders at Sector Honolulu diverted Coast Guard assets from the search for the fishermen to rescue the boaters.

Coast Guard crews are continuing the search through the night for the three missing fishermen originally reported overdue aboard the Iwa northwest of Oahu, early Monday.

Missing are Jensen Loo, Clint Osima and Derek Tomas. All three men are 30-years-old. The Iwa was spotted overturned by the Coast Guard approximately 25 miles off of Haleiwa Boat Harbor during Monday's search.

An MH-65 Dolphin helicopter crew and an HC-130 Hercules airplane crew, both from Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point, are currently searching as well as the crew of the USCGC Kiska (WPB-1336).

An Urgent Marine Information Broadcast has been issued alerting mariners in the area to keep a sharp lookout and report any sightings to the Coast Guard Sector Honolulu Command Center.

Anyone with information that may help locate the three fishermen is asked to contact the Sector Honolulu Command Center at 808-842-2600. (PR)

Business

Investors rush to sell out of UK commercial property

LONDON (AP)—The British pound dropped sharply to a new 31-year low on Tuesday amid concerns that the country's decision to leave the European Union might cause a steep slide in U.K. commercial real estate values and hurt the wider economy.

Markets were jittery after three financial firms stopped trading in their respective U.K. commercial property funds following a rapid increase in investors trying to sell their holdings. The funds buy commercial property and offer shares to investors.

Some of those investors now appear worried that companies might opt to leave London to move operations to mainland Europe to retain access to the EU market. That would vacate office space and weigh down on real estate val-

ues in Britain's capital.

Aviva Investors, Standard Life and M&G Investments said they froze the funds to protect other investors who wished to remain in the funds.

"Redemptions have now reached a point where M&G believes it can best protect the interests of the funds' shareholders by seeking a temporary suspension in trading," the company said of the 4.4 billion pound (\$5.8 billion) fund.

The moves come even as the Bank of England moved to reassure markets it would avoid a repeat of the 2007-08 financial crisis, freeing up more money for loans to business and households. Drawing another line under another dramatic day, a group of senior bank leaders—including the chairmen of Barclays, Royal Bank of Scotland and

HSBC—met with Treasury chief George Osborne and promised to keep money flowing into the system.

"We have a clear plan. We're putting measures in place," Carney said. "And it's working."

In a time of political upheaval, Carney offered the counterpoint of confidence and control, announcing changes to the amount of rainy-day funds banks have to hold. That, he hopes, will help the banks lend as much as 150 billion pounds (\$199 billion) more, supporting the economy during the uncertainty surrounding the exit from the single EU market of some 500 million.

Carney, however, was direct in explaining that some of the risks to the economy predicted before the referendum had in fact begun to crystallize.

Berlin aims to lure British startups fearful over Brexit

BERLIN (AP)—When Cornelia Yzer woke to the news that Britain had voted to leave the European Union her initial reaction was disappointed. As an anglophile she was saddened by the thought of Britain leaving the club.

Then Berlin's economy minister reached for the phone and got busy luring companies from Britain to the Germany capital.

"The decision (to leave the EU), which I regret, was taken by Britain," Yzer told The Associated Press. "So there can't be any surprise that those who see themselves firmly anchored inside the European Union—and that's the case for Germany and its capital Berlin—now want to make sure that they're

a home for businesses that say 'we need to be in.'"

Yzer (pronounced EE-ser) isn't the only official on the continent hoping for a bonanza from Britain's exit, informally known as Brexit. Cities such as Frankfurt, Paris and Amsterdam have already been jostling to tempt banks away from London, Europe's biggest financial hub, with the promise of protecting their much-cherished access to the other 27 EU markets.

Berlin stands little chance of competing for a piece of the lucrative banking pie. But Yzer believes multinational companies—from airlines to pharma firms—will see the advantage of basing their Eu-

ropean headquarters in the capital of the EU's biggest economy.

Its image as a relaxed and relatively affordable city may also convince tech companies, particularly startups, to relocate. Berlin is already home to on-line retailer Zalando, language-learning service babble and audio sharing platform SoundCloud. Last year, Berlin startups attracted more investment than those in based in London.

"We have always advertised Berlin to London's startup scene," said Yzer, who now plans to open an office in London that will talk up the city's advantages over its British rival and assist companies in relocating.

Computers, not humans to scan carry-on bags in TSA test

Federal officials said Tuesday that they are expanding tests to speed up airport lines and improve security.

In a first in the U.S., the Transportation Security Administration said Tuesday that it plans to begin using computed-tomography or CT scanners to inspect carry-on bags at one checkpoint in the Phoenix airport by the end of the year.

CT scanners are already used to screen checked baggage. The process is mostly automated—the scanners generate 3-D images that are analyzed by computers. Security workers only check a bag if something is suspicious.

The use of CT technology at airport checkpoints would eliminate the need for screen-

ers to examine X-ray images of every bag. It could also let travelers leave liquids and laptops in their carry-on bags.

TSA said it will work with American Airlines to make other changes to increase automation and speed up screening this fall in Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles and Miami.

American will spend \$5 million on the changes, said the airline's chief operating officer, Robert Isom, in a letter to employees. He said neither the increased automation nor CT scanners will solve TSA's problems, "but they are both huge steps in the right direction."

The changes at Chicago's O'Hare Airport, Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport,

Los Angeles International and Miami mirror a pilot program that TSA is running with Delta Air Lines in two lanes at the Atlanta airport. There, suspicious bags can be sent to a separate area for more screening while other bags on the conveyor belt keep moving. Bins are automatically sent back to the head of the line, and they are given radio-frequency-identification tags for better tracking.

The agency said the scanners and other steps will cut the time travelers spend in line by about 30 percent. Long checkpoint lines have become a nuisance for travelers. Security experts warn that the long lines create targets for terrorists that are outside security checkpoints.

Nation

No charges for Clinton, FBI says—despite biting criticism

WASHINGTON (AP)—

The FBI lifted a major legal threat to Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign Tuesday, recommending no criminal charges for her handling of highly classified material in a private email account. But Director James Comey's scathing criticism of her "extremely careless" behavior revitalized Republican attacks and guaranteed the issue will continue to dog her.

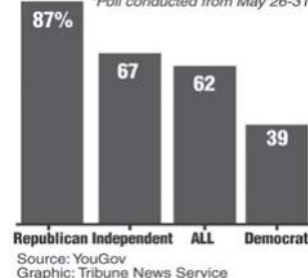
Comey's announcement effectively removed any possibility of criminal prosecution arising from Clinton's email practices as President Barack Obama's secretary of state. Attorney General Loretta Lynch said last week that she intended to accept the recommendations of the FBI and of career prosecutors.

But the FBI director's blistering televised statement

Clinton emails a serious problem?

A poll asks Americans how serious a problem the Clinton emails are

Percent saying it is a very or a somewhat serious problem that Hillary Clinton used a personal email address to conduct government business



excoriated her handling of national secrets, contradicted her past explanations about her emails and ensured she will remain on the defensive about voters' views of her trustworthiness and judgment.

GOP presidential candi-

date Donald Trump said the statement provided more evidence against "Crooked Hillary" and showed anew that "the system is rigged." Republican House Speaker Paul Ryan said the decision not to prosecute simply defied explanation.

The findings concluded a yearlong FBI investigation into whether Clinton mishandled classified information, either intentionally or through gross negligence.

Investigators who pored over tens of thousands of emails found no proof that Clinton or her aides intended to break laws governing the handling of classified information, Comey said. But he said, "There is evidence that they were extremely careless in their handling of very sensitive, highly classified information."

'Ready to pass the baton': Obama campaigns with Clinton

CHARLOTTE, N.C.

(AP)—President Barack Obama vigorously vouched for Hillary Clinton's trustworthiness and dedication Tuesday, making his first outing on the campaign stump for his former secretary of state just hours after his FBI director blasted her handling of classified material.

Shirt sleeves rolled up in campaign form, Obama declared, "I'm ready to pass the baton."

"I'm here today because I believe in Hillary Clinton," he said. "I have had a front-row seat to her judgment and her commitment."

The energetic Obama-Clinton appearance in North Carolina was a show of

Democratic unity in a state Clinton is hoping to put back in the party's column. But the moment wasn't what her campaign and the White House imagined during the long primary season.

Shortly before the president and his would-be successor flew to Charlotte together, FBI Director James Comey announced he would not recommend charges against Clinton for her email practices but only after he presented a searing description of her "extremely careless" handling of classified information that ensured the matter won't be going away.

The White House declined to comment on Comey's findings, saying the inves-

tigation was not formally closed and it did not want to appear to be influencing prosecutors. Still, the timing of the trip pulled the president into a controversy he has at times tried to keep at arm's length. His appearance with Clinton was a reminder that it was his appointee who declined to pursue criminal charges.

Yet Clinton and Obama did not veer from their display of lockstep unity. The duo flew to Charlotte together on Air Force One, and they rode to the rally together in Obama's armored limousine, known as "The Beast." Clinton shared photos of her grandchildren, Charlotte and newborn Aidan, with the president.



ACROSS THE NATION

Mega Millions jackpot edges up to \$454M

DES MOINES, Iowa

(AP)—The Mega Millions jackpot reached an estimated \$454 million ahead of its Tuesday evening drawing, making it potentially the 7th largest lottery jackpot in U.S. history. With slightly better odds than the Powerball game, it's rare that nearly four months passes without someone winning a Mega Millions jackpot. It is the longest the game's jackpot has rolled on without a top prize winner. "This is our longest roll ever, by far," said Paula Otto, executive director of the Virginia Lottery and lead director for Mega Mil-

lions, which is managed by a consortium of lottery organizations. Tuesday could mark the 34th time the jackpot has rolled without a winner. The previous record was 22 rolls in December 2013.

Noah's ark of biblical proportions ready to open in Kentucky

WILLIAMSTOWN, Ky.

(AP)—A 510-foot-long, \$100 million Noah's ark attraction built by Christians who say the biblical story really happened is ready to open in Kentucky this week. Since its announcement in 2010, the ark project has ruffled opponents who say the

attraction will be detrimental to science education and shouldn't have won state tax incentives. "I believe this is going to be one of the greatest Christian outreaches of this era in history," said Ken Ham, president of Answers in Genesis, the ministry that built the ark. Ham said the massive ark, based on the tale of a man who got an end-of-the-world warning from God about a massive flood, will stand as proof that the stories of the Bible are true. The group invited media and thousands of supporters for a preview Tuesday, the first glimpse inside the giant, mostly wood structure.

Asia

PH president ready to talk to China after tribunal ruling

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippines' new president said Tuesday that Manila is ready to talk to China, not go to war, if an arbitration tribunal rules in its favor in a case it brought against Beijing's claims in the South China Sea.

President Rodrigo Duterte said the Philippines "remains optimistic that the tribunal will rule in our favor." But if the ruling is not favorable, then the Philippines will accept and abide by it, he added.

"When it's favorable to us, let's talk," he said. "We are not prepared to go to war, war is a dirty word."

But he said the country will proceed accordingly after it obtains a copy of the judgment, and will base decisions on the Philippines' greater interest.

The official China Daily reported Monday that China is ready to start negotiations with the Philippines if Manila ignores the tribunal ruling, which is expected to be issued on July 12.

The Philippines brought its long-simmering disputes with China in the South China Sea to international arbitration in January 2013 after Beijing took control of disputed Scarborough Shoal following a standoff.

At his first Cabinet meeting after taking office last week, Duterte expressed the need for the Philippines to fully study the impact of the ruling, whether favorable or not.

New Foreign Secretary Perfecto Yasay made sensitive remarks about the territorial disputes that were broadcast live by the state-run TV network before it abruptly cut away from its coverage of the Cabinet meeting.

Yasay spoke about an apparent wish by some foreign governments for Manila to issue a stronger statement about the dispute if the tribunal rules favorably. "I am adverse to that idea," he told Duterte and fellow Cabinet members.

"There are lots of nuances that we do not know as yet,"

Yasay said.

"But the bottom-line question is what will happen if the decision is in our favor," Yasay said, adding that China could potentially "dig in and put us to a test." If that happens, he said, "there is no point for us to yell."

In Washington, a former top Chinese official delivered a tough message Tuesday, warning against countries seeking to implement the tribunal's decision. Dai Bingguo, former Chinese state councilor, called for the case to be stopped, saying the tribunal's ruling "amounts to nothing more than a piece of paper."

"If the tribunal insisted on its way and produced an 'award,' no one and no country should implement the award in any form, much less force China into implementation. And the Philippines must be dissuaded from making any further provocation. Otherwise, China would not sit idle," Dai told a conference at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace think tank.

Japan, US agree to narrow definition of workers on US bases

TOKYO (AP)—Japan and the U.S. announced Tuesday that they will reduce the number of civilians working on American military bases who receive immunity from Japanese prosecution, a step toward addressing outrage on Okinawa over a recent murder case on the island involving a Marine-turned-contractor.

The two sides said civilians covered by the Status of Forces Agreement, or SOFA, will be limited to those who meet more specific criteria than under the current definition. Education and monitoring of American troops and base workers will also be enhanced to try to cut back on crimes.

The largely symbolic

change, however, does not involve a formal revision of the agreement.

The arrest in May of a Kadena Air Base contractor accused of raping and killing a 20-year-old local woman sparked renewed anger on Okinawa, where resentment has been simmering over a heavy U.S. troop presence and crime linked to the bases.

A number of drunken driving arrests of American servicemen and contractors in the weeks since, even when disciplinary measures were in place, have aggravated the sense of frustration among Okinawans. On Monday, Okinawan police arrested a technical sergeant at Kadena

Air Base for suspected drunken driving.

The announcement Tuesday was made in Tokyo during talks among Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida, Defense Minister Gen Nakatani, U.S. Ambassador Caroline Kennedy, and Lt. Gen. John Dolan, commander of the U.S. military in Japan.

Under the changes, base contractors, now described vaguely as "civilian component," will be classified in more specific terms, to exclude from preferential treatment those without skills and those who are residents of Japan, like murder suspect Kenneth Shinzato, who is a resident of Okinawa and married to a Japanese.

PH president accuses 5 police generals of drug links

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—New Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte on Tuesday named five active and retired police generals as protectors of drug syndicates, and sacked those still in service.

Duterte, who has promised to rid the country of illegal drugs and criminality within six months, said in a speech that he has ordered an investigation, and accused the generals of committing a crime that is tantamount to treason.

Two of the men are retired and the three others are in ac-

tive service.

"I order them relieved from their assignment and to report to the director general," Duterte said, adding that he expects action from the police commission that investigates erring police officers.

He said the campaign against illegal drugs will be a "dirty" and "bloody fight," but reminded police to follow the law and shoot suspects only when their own lives are in danger.

Officials said since Duterte took office on June 30, at least 30 suspected drug pushers

have died in clashes with police, bringing the number of drug suspects killed in such gunfights since the May 9 election to more than 100.

The five generals he named included Chief Supt. Vicente Loot, who retired as director of the police training service and is now a town mayor.

Loot, in an interview with the ABS-CBN network, said the accusations against him were bogus and he had been cleared of wrongdoing earlier by the national police's anti-illegal drugs task force.

World

Islamic State tightens grip on captives held as sex slaves



Lamiya Aji Bashar, an 18-year-old Yazidi girl who escaped her Islamic State group enslavers, talks to The Associated Press in northern Iraq in this May 5, 2016 photo.

KHANKE, Iraq (AP)—The advertisement on the Telegram app is as chilling as it is incongruous: A girl for sale is "Virgin. Beautiful. 12 years old.... Her price has reached \$12,500 and she will be sold soon."

The posting in Arabic appeared on an encrypted conversation along with ads for kittens, weapons and tactical gear. It was shared with The Associated Press by an activist with the minority Yazidi community, whose women and children are being held as sex slaves by the extremists.

While the Islamic State group is losing territory in its self-styled caliphate, it is tightening its grip on the estimated 3,000 women and girls held as sex slaves. In a fusion of ancient barbaric practices and modern technology, IS sells the women like chattel on smart phone apps and shares databases that contain their photographs and the names of their "owners" to prevent their escape through IS checkpoints. The fighters are assassinating smugglers who rescue the captives, just as funds to buy the women out of slavery are drying up.

The thousands of Yazidi women and children were taken prisoner in August 2014, when IS fighters overran their villages in northern Iraq with the aim to eliminate the Kurdish-speaking minority because of its ancient faith.

Since then, Arab and Kurdish smugglers managed to free an average of 134 people a month. But by May, an IS crackdown reduced those numbers to just 39 in the last six weeks, according to fig-

ures provided by the Kurdistan regional government.

Mirza Danai, founder of the German-Iraqi aid organization Luftbrücke Irak, said in the last two or three months, escape has become more difficult and dangerous.

"They register every slave, every person under their owner, and therefore if she escapes, every Daesh control or checkpoint, or security force—they know that this girl ... has escaped from this owner," he said, using the Arabic acronym for the group.

U.S. State Department spokesman John Kirby told the AP that the U.S. continues "to be appalled by credible reports that Daesh is trafficking in human beings, and sex slavery in particular."

"This depravity not only speaks to the degree to which Daesh cheapens life and repudiates the Islamic faith, it also strengthens our resolve to defeat them," he said.

The AP has obtained a batch of 48 head shots of the captives, smuggled out of the IS-controlled region by an escapee, which people familiar with them say are similar to those in the extremists' slave database and the smart-phone apps.

Lamiya Aji Bashar tried to flee four times before finally escaping in March, racing to government-controlled territory with Islamic State group fighters in pursuit. A land mine exploded, killing her companions, 8-year-old Almas and Katherine, 20. She never learned their last names.

The explosion left Lamiya blind in her right eye, her face scarred by melted

skin. Saved by the man who smuggled her out, she counts herself among the lucky.

"I managed in the end, thanks to God, I managed to get away from those infidels," the 18-year-old told the AP from a bed at her uncle's home in the northern Iraqi town of Baadre. "Even if I had lost both eyes, it would have been worth it, because I have survived them."

The Sunni extremists view the Yazidis as barely human. The Yazidi faith combines elements of Islam, Christianity and Zoroastrianism, an ancient Persian religion. Their pre-war population in Iraq was estimated around 500,000. Their number today is unknown.

Nadia Mourad, an escapee, has appeared before the U.S. Congress and the European Parliament to appeal for international help.

"Daesh is proud of what it's done to the Yazidis," she said to Parliament. "They are being used as human shields. They are not allowed to escape or flee. Probably they will be assassinated. Where is the world in all this? Where is humanity?"

IS relies on encrypted apps to sell the women and girls, according to an activist is documenting the transactions and asked not to be named for fear of his safety.

The activist showed AP the negotiations for the captives in encrypted conversations as they were occurring in real time.

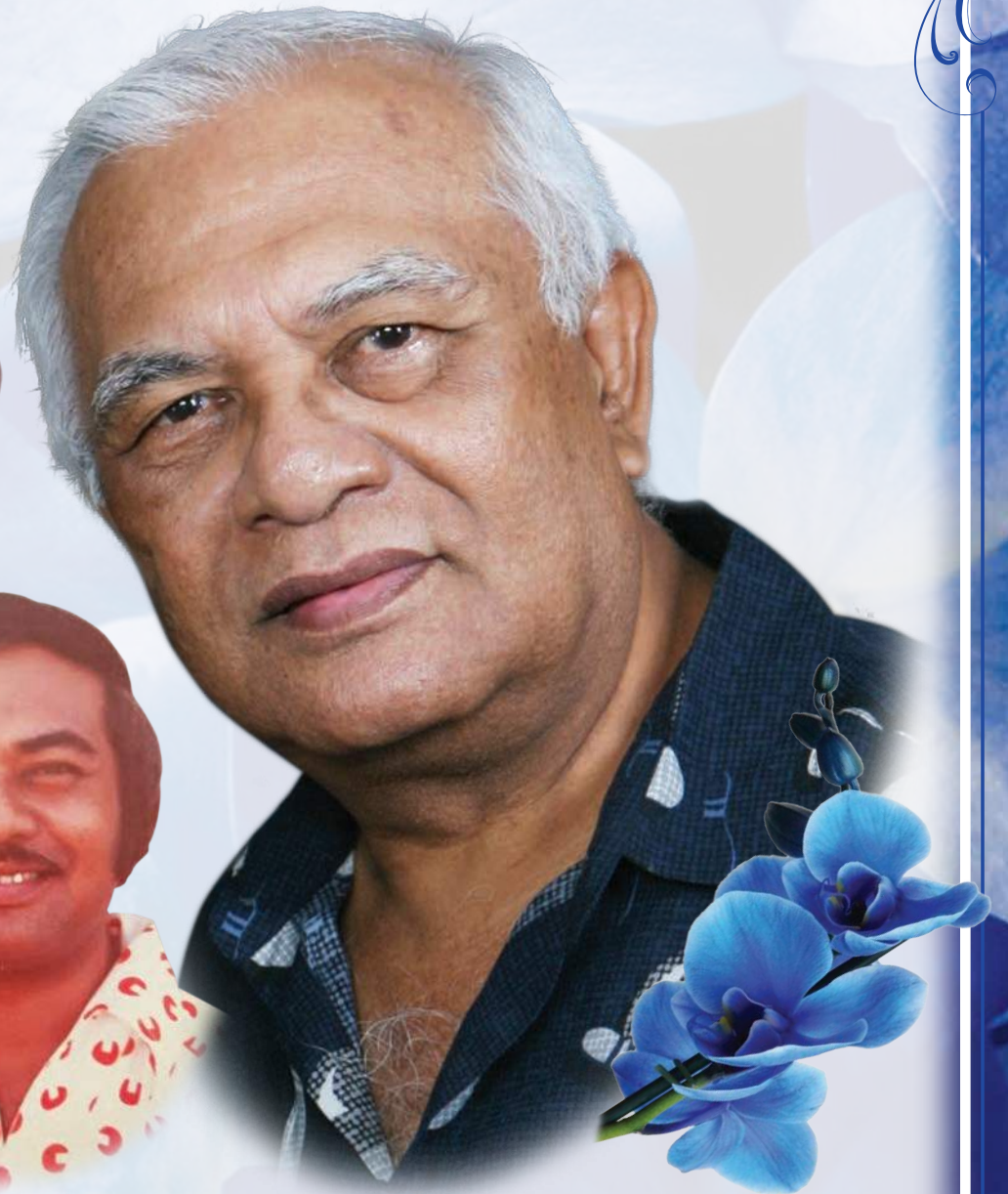
The postings appear primarily on Telegram and on Facebook and WhatsApp to a lesser degree, he said.

IN ETERNAL LIFE



"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

[John 3:16]



JOSE CEPEDA LEON GUERRERO

[Affectionately known as "Joe" or "Joe Tindin"]

Born on November 9, 1944, answered our Lord's call on June 29, 2016 to his new home in Paradise where he will be greeted and reunited with *his son †Walter David and grandson †Josef Joachin; his parents †Rosa Torres Cepeda and †Vicente Iglesias Leon Guerrero; brothers †Joaquin, †Bernardo, and †Nicolas; mother-in-law †Maria Ada DeLeon Guerrero; sister-in-law †Vertilia C. Leon Guerrero; nephews, niece, and grandniece †Vicente and Rudolfo Leon Guerrero, Naomi DLG Benjamin, Briana LG. Camacho*

Joe lived a fulfilling, blessed and enjoyable life with his wife, **Alicia DLG. Leon Guerrero**. His strong family ties, unique and warm personality, laughter, friendship, leadership, his love and passion for sports, his legacy and most especially his unconditional love will forever live on in the hearts of his wife, his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren – *Joellene Collette*/Albert Abadam and children; *Roslyn Monique* and sons; *Guadalupe Maria*/Dennis Urdaneta and sons; *Alana May*/Joaquin Tudela, Jr. and daughter; *Marie*, children and grandchildren; *Jeffrey*, children and grandchildren; children and grandchildren of *†Walter David*; children at heart – *Charlie*/Dolores C. Leon Guerrero and family; Nicolas/Jacqueline C. Leon Guerrero and family; *Christopher*/Frances P. Leon Guerrero and family; Lillian C. Leon Guerrero and children. He will be greatly missed by his brother Antonio/Anemary K. Leon Guerrero and family; his extended families – children of *†Nicolas* and *†Vertilia Leon Guerrero*; Dolores P. Leon Guerrero [*†Joaquin*] and family; Carmen B. Leon Guerrero [*†Bernardo*] and family; James DeLeon Guerrero/Frances Salas and family; Lourdes C. DeLeon Guerrero and family; Pauline DLG./Luis Kapileo and family; Louise DLG./Alvin Hofschneider and family; Elaine DLG./Nick Benjamin and family; Jocelyn DeLeon Guerrero and family; Carlyn DLG./Joseph Hofschneider and family; Bertha DLG./Ken Bowditch and family; Bridgette DLG./Henry Camacho and family; Vicente I. Duenas; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews and nieces, classmates, godchildren, former students and close friends.

Masses of intention for the repose of his soul is offered daily at 6:00 a.m. and the Holy Rosary is prayed at 7:00 p.m. at Mount Carmel Cathedral. *Joe will be with us for the last time on Friday, July 8, 2016. Visitation and last respects will begin at 9:00 a.m. at Mount Carmel Cathedral. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 1:00 p.m. with interment services to follow immediately at Mount Carmel Cemetery where he will be laid to peaceful rest.*

ALICIA DLG. LEON GUERRERO

[Children, grandchildren & great grandchildren]

Life & Style

Smokey Robinson honored with national pop music prize

WASHINGTON (AP)—Whether he was singing his own compositions or writing for other artists, Smokey Robinson was instrumental in shaping the Motown sound that changed American popular music in the 1960s. Now, his accomplishments have won him the pop music prize from the national library.

The Library of Congress announced Tuesday that Robinson, 76, is this year's recipient of the Gershwin Prize for Popular Song. The lifetime achievement award is named

for the duo of George and Ira Gershwin and was created by Congress to honor songwriters who entertain, inform and inspire. Past recipients include Billy Joel, Paul McCartney, Willie Nelson and Stevie Wonder.

Robinson has writing credits on more than 4,000 songs, and was behind some of the biggest hits in Motown history. As the lead singer of the Miracles, he wrote and performed "You've Really Got a Hold on Me," "The Tracks of My Tears" and "I Second



AP
In this June 28, 2015, file photo, Smokey Robinson performs at the BET Awards in Los Angeles.

That Emotion." He also wrote some of the Temptations' best-known songs, including "My Girl," "Get Ready" and "The Way You Do the Things You Do."

"It gives me such joy and gratitude to be included among the past recipients of this most prestigious songwriting award," Robinson said in a statement.

Robinson still performs regularly and was in Washington on Monday night as part of the lineup for annual "Capitol Fourth" concert on the lawn of

the Capitol.

Born in Detroit, Robinson collaborated closely with Motown founder Berry Gordy, working as a producer and talent scout in addition to his songwriting duties. He was the label's vice president for nearly 30 years.

In addition to the Temptations, he wrote for Marvin Gaye, Brenda Holloway and the Marvelettes, among others, and the Beatles, the Rolling Stones and Michael Jackson are among the artists who've cited him as an influence.

PBS says it should have told viewers about firework reruns



AP
Fireworks explode over Lincoln Memorial, at the National Mall as seen from Arlington, Va., during the Fourth of July celebration on Monday, July 4, 2016.

NEW YORK (AP)—It turns out the bombs bursting in air over Washington for PBS' presentation of "A Capitol Fourth" were, at least in part, reruns.

The public broadcasting service said Tuesday that it should have informed viewers that footage from previous years' fireworks displays were used on its ostensibly live program the night before. On a cloudy, misty evening in Washington where it was hard

to fully see the display, the Capital Concerts production company cut in with some fireworks from a clear night.

Viewers, particularly those in soggy Washington, quickly noticed the difference and took to social media to criticize PBS.

PBS ombudsman Michael Getler on Tuesday called it a "widespread, and proper, bashing."

He wrote that it was "sort of mind-boggling" that pro-

ducers couldn't have taken a few seconds to inform viewers that earlier clips were being used to accompany the live music. Capital Concerts obviously had to prepare in advance to have the footage available in case the weather forecast for a lousy night turned out to be true.

Capital Concerts initially tweeted that its decision to fake the fireworks was "the patriotic thing to do," then apologized later in the evening.

PBS said it has told the independent production company that it should have acknowledged use of the footage during the broadcast. An on-screen notice has been placed on its version of the program available online.

New Mexico to provide backdrop for new film 'Hostiles'

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP)—A new movie starring Christian Bale and Native American actors Wes Studi and Adam Beach will be filming in northern New Mexico through September.

The New Mexico Film Office announced Tuesday that

principal photography for the frontier epic "Hostiles" will begin this month. Locations include Santa Fe, Las Vegas, Abiquiu and Los Alamos.

The film is set in 1892. It tells the story of a legendary Army captain played by Bale

who ends up escorting a dying Cheyenne war chief and his family from a remote Army post back to tribal lands.

Los Alamos County Manager Harry Burgess says the region is proud to serve as a backdrop for the production.

Jamie Foxx & Andy Cohen to play in MLB celeb softball game

NEW YORK (AP)—Jamie Foxx and Andy Cohen are joining J.K. Simmons and Pete Wentz to play in the 2016 MLB All-Star Legends and Celebrity Softball Game.

New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees, Olympic gold medalist Jennie Finch, and actors Terry Crews and Morris Chestnut will also participate July 10 at San Diego's Petco Park alongside former All-Star players Trevor Hoffman, Ozzie Smith, Rollie Fingers and Tim Lincecum.

The softball game will air on ESPN immediately following the Home Run Derby on July 11. Tickets are on sale now.



AP
In this Nov. 1, 2015, file photo, Jamie Foxx presents the Hollywood actor award at the Hollywood Film Awards at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Other celebrity players include actor Mark-Paul Gosselaar, Rico Rodriguez of "Modern Family," former soccer player Landon Donovan,

models Nina Agdal and Damaris Lewis, and Disney Channel stars Raini Rodriguez, Peyton Meyer, Karan Brar and Cameron Boyce.

Stepson is on losing end of misspend child support

DEAR ABBY: I have an 8-year-old stepson, "Kaden," whom I love dearly. Kaden spends the bulk of his time with his mother on the other side of the country. When he comes to visit us in the summer, his clothing and shoes are always ragged and a few sizes too small.

My husband pays child support and buys Kaden a new wardrobe every six months. Yet every time he comes to us, he's never wearing anything his dad and I bought him, but what appear to be hand-me-down rags. We have spoken to the mother many times about it, but nothing changes.

We feel if we stop buying clothes for Kaden it would punish him, when it is his mom who isn't spending the child support money on the boy. We have paid for extracurricular activities (sports) only for her to not take him there. She lies and says he doesn't want to go, but we get a different story from the boy. He says she says, "Judo isn't a real sport." He has gained weight and we don't want him to be picked on for it.

The state where the boy lives is not good about giving fathers custody of their kids, and the mom is not necessarily unfit. How can we make her see she's hurting her kid?

MOTHER DOESN'T KNOW BEST

DEAR M.D.K.B.: You can't "make" another adult do something she isn't inclined to do. However, what you can

do is enroll Kaden in sports programs when he visits you during the summer months.

You and your husband can also talk to a family law attorney and find out at what age Kaden will be able to legally request to be placed with you. While a young child may not be able to do this, I believe a teenager can make a compelling case for it. If Kaden's mother has been depriving him, it would make a persuasive argument for a change in custody.

DEAR ABBY: I really like this guy named "Gary." He's super sweet, funny, cute and just incredible. He's my brother's friend.

I'm in sixth grade and he's in fifth. I think he might like me back. He asked me to follow his new Instagram account, and when I told him to tell my brother hi, he stared at me for a few seconds longer (plus he was smiling the whole time). One of my girlfriends sort of likes him, too.

What do I do? How do I tell him I like him? Is it OK for me to ask him to go to the park? His brother and my brother could go, too. Please help me. What do I do?

GIRL IN EL PASO, TEXAS

DEAR GIRL: If Gary wants you to follow his Instagram account, it's a pretty good sign that he has positive feelings for you. If you want to ask him to go to the park, and your

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

parents don't mind, go ahead and do it. But let me offer a couple of suggestions:

If you ask him, DO include your brother and his brother because being with others will make it more fun. And, everybody loves a compliment. The compliment doesn't have to be as blatant as "I like you," which could embarrass some boys his age. A simple, "I think you're great because (you're really smart, you're good at sports, you're fun to be around, etc.)" should do the trick.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby -- Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

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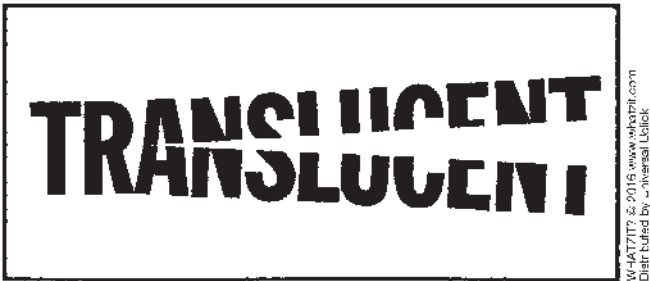
Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

WANTED

Cement Laborer

- Cement handling experience preferred.
- Will train motivated individuals
- Wages \$7.00 to \$7.50

Apply in person at
Hanson Micronesia Cement Inc.
Tel: 670 322-3333

GPCC, INC.
Job Opening:

Civil Engineering Technicians (03)
\$7.00 to 13.00 per hour
Must be a college graduate with minimum of 2-years experience as a Civil Engineering Technician with knowledge how to apply Theory and Principles of Civil Engineering in planning, designing and overseeing construction, structure maintenance and facilities under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientists.

Automobile Electrician (2)
\$6.10 - \$7.50/hour
Must have at least 5 years work related experience. Able to diagnose and undertake electrical repairs on a wide variety of vehicles and heavy equipment. With knowledge on electric motor, alternator, starter and motor rewinding.

Electrician (02) \$6.10 - \$7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years experience as Electrician. With knowledge on how to install, maintain, and repair electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Able to install or service street lights, intercom systems, or electrical control systems.

Heavy Equipment Mechanic (2)
\$6.10 - \$8.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 5 years' experience as Heavy Equipment Mechanic. With knowledge how to diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automobiles, hydraulic, and pneumatic equipment, such as cranes, bulldozers, graders, excavators, trucks and conveyors, typically used in constructions.

Heavy Equipment Operator (05)
\$6.10 - \$8.75/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years' experience as HE Operator. With knowledge how to operate several types of power construction equipment, such as motor graders, bulldozers, trenching machine, scrapers, compressors, pumps, derricks, shovels, tractors, or front-end loaders to excavate, move, and grade earth, erect structures, or pour concretes and etc.

All of the above positions must be able to work flexible time. Interested applicants may apply at GPCC, INC. office located at As Perdido, Saipan. A copy of police clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete application will NOT be accepted. Skills testing maybe required. GPCC, INC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Run dates: July 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 2016.

Closing Date: July 07, 2016

EMPLOYMENT

Opening for Accountant w/ Bridge Capital, LLC in Garapan, Saipan, CNMI. Min Reqs: Bach deg in Accounting (may be foreign equiv); 2 yrs exp as an Accountant; & 1 yr exp using Microsoft Excel & Quickbooks, Real World, Peachtree, or other bus accounting software programs. Provides financial analyses, preparation of financial reports, & financial advice to corp. Send CV to PMB 29, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950; email to jordan.sundell@bccnmi.com or fax to 670-322-2323. Verif of qualifs req.

SAIPAN MACHINERY, INC.

1 MAID & Housekeeping Cleaner
*1-2 years exp. as maid & house-keeping cleaner
*At least high school graduate
Please send resume to: Saipan Machinery Inc.
Fax no: 234-5104

Vacancy Announcement

(2) Trash Collector - Atleast High School graduate. With valid driver's license. Needs to be physically fit and willing to work flexible time and must be hardworking.

(1) Electrician - Atleast 5 yrs. experience as Electrician. Proficient on layout & installation of electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures.

Submit Applications to:
AYD Services Inc.
Tel. # (670)235-7011

EMPLOYMENT

10 – Construction Worker - \$6.05 to \$7.00/hr. Minimum at least two (2) years experience as Construction Worker. Fax resume to 234-9796. Kimco Ent. Inc.

1 Operations Manager: \$1,200-\$1,300/mo. Bachelor's degree & 2 years management experience required. Email resume to vienna@hanmisaipan.com.

1 Tour Manager: \$1,200-\$1,600/mo. 5 years experience in tour agency management and college degree required. Korean speaking and writing fluency required. Email

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

AM MACHINE SHOP NEED:
(1) Mechanic must have 3 yrs experience in overhauling car and have knowledge in car airconditioning
(5) Machinist must have 5 yrs experience in Fabricating, Modifying parts please send your resume at santos_adonis@yahoo.com
Contact No. 323-0102

Salty Saipan Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

General Maintenance

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: High school graduate; Seven (7) years of paid experience as a General Building Structure Maintenance worker in position(s) requiring knowledge of rough and finish carpentry, plumbing, interior and exterior painting and electrician skills; three (3) years of experience as a commercial cleaner, preferably in hotel, lodge or single structure housekeeping setting(s). Experience with use of pesticides and fertilizers and how to avoid the hazardous affect of common chemicals used for building maintenance and repair.

DUTIES: Ensures that a newly constructed building structure and its surrounding area are maintained in a clean and orderly condition and good repair. Cleans rooms and yard areas; strips and applies wax to floors; shampoos carpets; washes and paints interior and exterior walls; diagnoses and cures building plumbing, electrical and carpentry repair needs. Assesses and completes laundry needs. Operates water blaster and bush whacker.

Interested applicants may send resume to herenusong@gmail.com

EMPLOYMENT

resumetojinam@hanmisaipan.com.

1 Tour Coordinator: \$6.05-\$6.55/hr. 3 years' experience required. Korean speaking and writing fluency required.

1 Tour Guide: \$6.05-\$6.55/hr. 3 years' experience required. Korean speaking and writing fluency required. Email resume to jinam@hanmisaipan.com.

2 Waiter/Waitress: \$6.05-\$6.55/hr. At least 1 year's experience required. Email resume to wing@hanmisaipan.com.

Garage Sale

Leaving Island Garage Sale: Appliances, Household items, Purse and Jewelry. Call Gina 287-4462/233-2350 for more info.

Job Vacancy Announcement

Position Title: In-Home Caregiver
Hours of Duty: 7:30 am to 4:30 pm
Days: Mondays thru Fridays
Wages: \$6.05/hour

Job Description: plan and prepare meals; go to the store and do grocery shopping; make beds and change linens; laundry and ironing; run errands (pickup prescriptions); provide medication reminders; assist with bathing, dressing and grooming); escorts on appointments (doctor's, hair salon); escort to religious services or events); maintain calendar and organize mail); assist walking and light exercise; companionship.

Interested applicants may call our office (Western Pacific Telecom) at 234-6030 or email resume to fsramon1948@gmail.com

PLACE YOUR ADVERT HERE!

For opportunities contact us at 235-6397

HARDT EYE CLINIC and DIABETES EDUCATION CENTER
Announces the following job vacancy:

REGISTERED NURSE
Full time Registered Nurse. Duties: Assist patient health problems and needs, develop and implement nursing care plans and maintain medical records; Administer nursing care to ill, injured, convalescent, or disabled patients; May advise patients on health maintenance and disease prevention or provide case management; Provides individualized diabetes self-management education/training to individuals and groups according to the Scope of Practice, Standards of Practice, and Standards of Professional performance for Diabetes Education (AADE, 2005); Maintain accurate, detailed reports and medical records, information and vital signs; Order, interpret, and evaluate diagnostic tests to identify and assess patient's condition; Modify patient treatment plans as indicated by patients' responses and condition; Direct and supervise less skilled nursing or health care personnel or supervise a particular unit; monitor all aspects of patient care, including diet and physical activity; Instruct individuals, families and other groups on topics such as health education, disease prevention, and develop health improvement programs; and Prepare patients for, and assist with, examinations and treatments.

Qualifications: Associate Science Degree in Nursing or higher degree is acceptable; Licensed Registered Nurse; Certified Diabetes Educator (certified by National Certification Board for Diabetes Educators); At least two (2) years experience in nursing and health care.

Interested individuals please submit resume to: Emelda M. Ito, [Accountant/Personnel In Charge], Hardt Eye Clinic, Inc. dba Hardt Eye Clinic; Diabetes Education Center located next to Monika's Furniture, Beach Road, Chalan Laulau, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; or send by facsimile (670) 235-2033; or by e-mail to hardteye.acctg@gmail.com.

WE ARE AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

WESTERN SALES TRADING COMPANY
has an opening for:

One (1) Sales/Marketing Manager
Minimum Qualifications: Bachelor of Business Administration degree with a major in Marketing or closely related field (may be foreign equivalent) and two (2) years experience as a Sales and/or Marketing Manager preferably in wines or spirits.

Duties: Reports to company's CEO/General Manager or designee and manages and directs the sales and marketing operations for the company. Works in conjunction with senior management in formulating the company's overall sales policies and marketing (Advertising, Promotions, and Merchandising) plans to optimize the company's sales. Forecast sales, tracks sales performance of company's products and explains variances. Manages and directs activities of sales and marketing personnel (Customer service, product ordering, sales, invoicing, deliveries, merchandising, collections, promotions, and POSs/signages placement and upkeep) and ensures that company's sales and marketing policies and procedures are being followed. Maintains business relationships with existing customers, develops new accounts, and negotiates sales contracts. Resolves any customer concerns or complaints regarding sales and marketing services. Maintains records of all sales and marketing activities; monitors customer preferences to determine focus of sales efforts; and analyzes pricing points and volume in order to make necessary modifications in sales strategy to improve wholesale sales and keep the company competitive. Performs feasibility analyses for expansion into new product lines and market areas. Performs other related duties, as required.

Monthly Salary: \$2,000.00
Fringe Benefits Package: Medical Insurance, Paid Leaves, and 401K

If interested, send resume to Western Sales Trading Company by email to bello.lumintegar@yahoo.com or by fax at 670-322-9408. Proof of qualifications and police clearance required within three days of hire.

EQUITABLE REALTY & CONSULTING SERVICES

1 MAINTENANCE & REPAIRER WORKER

*1-2 yrs exp. in maintenance / as a repairer worker
*At least high school graduate

Please send resume to:
Equitable Realty & Consulting Services
Fax no.: 234-5104

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

AUTO MARINE INC.

(1) MECHANIC must have 3 yrs experience in repairing vehicles and boat engines
(1) MAINTENANCE REPAIRER must have 3 yrs experience in maintaining and repairing company vehicles please send your resume at santos_adonis@yahoo.com

Contact No. 323-2916

Sams’ Sons, Inc.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Operation Manager
4-5 yrs experience. Salary: \$6.05/hr

All interested applicants may send resume to ming@pacifictacticalsupply.com

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 503758
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel.: 234-7859
Fax: 234-5750

Attorney for Petitioner Edezer Arceo

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER
OF ESTATE OF:

VICENTE ILO
LAIROPI,

Deceased.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 16-0124

NOTICE OF HEARING ON
PETITION FOR LETTERS
OF ADMINISTRATION

DATE: August 4, 2016
TIME: 9:00am
JUDGE: Joseph N. Camacho

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS,
OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE VICENTE ILO LAIROPI
OR HIS ESTATE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Edezer Arceo, has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to issue Letters of Administration for the estate of Vicente Ilo Lairopi, the deceased. The Attorney for Petitioner is Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950.

The hearing on the Petition is scheduled to be heard on August 4, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the deceased or his Estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of this publication or the claim(s) will be barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to ROBERT T. TORRES Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated.

Dated this 22nd day of June 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court
Deputy Clerk of Court



PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB SAIPAN

We are seeking for high energy individuals with a positive, can do attitude. Pacific Islands Club, Saipan is inviting qualified, U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

(2) BUILDING MAINTENANCE
Minimum of three (3) years related work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) ELECTRICIAN
Minimum of five (5) years work experience. Must be able to work shifts, weekends, and holidays.


(1) FOOD & BEVERAGE SUPERVISOR
Must have at least three (3) years related work experience in Food & Beverage service, two (2) years of supervisory experience, plus one (1) year relevant work experience in coordinating events; Supervises employees engaged in serving foods in restaurants and maintaining cleanliness of food service areas and equipment; must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(2) HVAC TECHNICIAN
Minimum of four (4) years related work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Thursday, July 21st, 2016.

PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance.

Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered. PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



CIP PROGRAM OFFICE, OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP16-GOV-146

UNDERGROUND FUEL STORAGE TANK (UST) MONITORING SYSTEM FOR THE GUMA HUSTISIA (JUDICIARY) BUILDING, SAIPAN, MP

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lieutenant Governor Victor B. Hocog are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified contractors certified in the area of Underground Storage Tank (UST) Monitoring Systems for the Guma Hustisia (Judiciary) Bldg., Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project requires the inspection of the existing facility and monitoring system, recommended approach and type of system to be installed to meet regulatory requirements, supply, installation, testing and commissioning of a new, compliant, and fully functional UST monitoring system, including securing and compliance with necessary permits, inspections, and approvals from the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ), and two-year maintenance service by a duly certified and trained technician.

The project RFP package will be available **Thursday, June 30, 2016** at the Governor's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill.

Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The work shall be conducted by a CNMI licensed contractor certified in the area of performing work associated with UST monitoring systems. Prior to being awarded a contract, the contractor must have a current CNMI business license, worker's health insurance, general liability insurance, and workman's compensation insurance. The contractor must also demonstrate at least five (5) years of satisfactory work experience on projects with UST devices including monitoring and testing work in the CNMI. The contractor must also demonstrate ability to provide certified technicians, qualified personnel, materials, and equipment to complete the work. Certification of key personnel and technicians are required prior to being awarded a contract.

Evaluation Criteria:
Submitted proposals will be evaluated on a possible 100 point score based on the following factors:

1)	Technical Qualifications of the Construction Firm and Key Technicians Assigned to the Project	45 points
2)	Past Experience in UST Monitoring Systems in the CNMI	30 Points
3)	Technical Approach and Completion Time	20 Points
4)	Price	5 Points

Proposers are required to submit a cost proposal to perform the scope of work for reference only and will not be part of the evaluation criteria. The evaluation committee of designated reviewers selected by the Capital Improvement Office, Office of the Governor shall review and evaluate proposals.

There will be a **mandatory** pre-proposal conference for this project on **Thursday, July 7, 2016, 2:00PM** ChST at the Atrium Conference Room, ground floor of the Guma Hustisia (Judiciary) Building, Susupe, Saipan. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 PM ChST **July 18, 2016** to Ms. Sonya P. Dancoe, P.E., Project Manager to the CIP Administrator, Capital Improvement Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408. All responses to questions will be copied to other prospective proposers.

Sealed proposals must be marked "**UNDERGROUND FUEL STORAGE TANK (UST) MONITORING SYSTEM FOR THE GUMA HUSTISIA (JUDICIARY) BUILDING, SAIPAN, MP.**". For proposers within the CNMI, one (1) original and two (2) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Ascension Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 10:00 AM ChST **Tuesday, July 26, 2016**. Proposers located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposals by submitting a Notice of Intent. Notices of Intent must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 AM ChST **Tuesday, July 26, 2016**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one (1) original and two (2) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **Tuesday, July 26, 2016** and must be received no later than 10:00 A.M. **Tuesday, August 4, 2016** ChST. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

Discussions shall be conducted with at least three (3) firms regarding the contract requirements and evaluation criteria and selection made therefrom in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required. A contract shall be negotiated with the highest qualified firm at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.


The Government is not responsible for any expenses which Proposers may incur in the preparation and submittal of proposals requested by this RFP, including but not limited to, costs associated with travel, accommodations, interviews or presentations, or proposals.

This project is funded in whole by a grant from the U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs. All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded a contract for this project, including excise tax.

All proposals received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.


/s/ Ralph DLG. Torres, Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply, DOF



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 CK • Saipan, MP 96950-1220
Tel: (670) 664-4282 • Facsimile: (670) 235-5131



Job Vacancy Announcement

JVA No. 16-028

Opening Date: Thursday, June 02, 2016
Closing Date: Until Filled.

Chief Financial Officer

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation ("CUC") is seeking for a qualified Chief Financial Officer ("CFO"). CUC is a public utility corporation located on the island of Saipan in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ("CNMI")—a United States territory in the northwestern Pacific Ocean.

The CNMI is a tropical paradise of fourteen islands. In the CNMI you can escape to a place of magnificent beaches and crystal clear aqua waters, and rich history. Saipan offers year-round outdoor activities, world class diving and golfing, international shopping, a range of ethnic restaurants and a cacophony of indigenous and international cultures.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND OPPORTUNITY OFFERED:

Reporting directly to CUC's Executive Director or designee, the Chief Financial Officer ("CFO") works directly with the Deputy Executive Director ("DED"). The CFO fills a position required by the Stipulated Order ("SO") of the United States of America vs. the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, Civil Case No. CV 08-0051.

- Responsible for the overall accounting, budgeting, and financial operations of CUC.
- Supervises professional and support staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff are trained; and, making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations.
- Maintains the financial and budget records and accounts of CUC.
- Performs financial, budget and rate analyses of operations and revenues; makes recommendations for adjustments to rates.
- Develops, implements and enforces financial and budget policies and procedures.
- Prepares complex financial and budget reports and special reports as requested by the Board.
- Schedules and coordinates annual audits with independent contractors.
- Prepares an annual report of the financial condition of CUC.
- Plans, implements and monitors short and long-term goals for the department and CUC.
- Other duties of a similar nature or level as assigned or required.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Successful candidates for CUC's Chief Financial Officer must have the following:

- Education:
 - Bachelor's degree in accounting or financial management from a United States accredited institution or one with equivalent accreditation;
- Experience:
 - Ten (10) years of professional experience in governmental or financial accounting, including experience in a supervisory and/or management position.
- Certification and Licensing:
 - A Certified Public Accountant or Certified Management Accountant is desired.
 - Ability to obtain and maintain a CNMI driver's license of the appropriate class upon hire is required.
- Must demonstrate the following:
 - Thorough knowledge of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, as well as Financial Accounting Standards Board and Government Accounting Standards Board pronouncements and interpretations, auditing principles, and utility rate structures and rate setting principles and methods;
 - Working knowledge of automated financial systems and programs to manage all aspects of reporting, personnel management and training;
 - General knowledge of utility operations, debt collection practices, and limitations.
- Knowledge of:
 - Supervisory principles;
 - Managerial and leadership principles;
 - Generally Accepted Accounting Principles or other applicable laws, rules and regulations;
 - Budgetary principles;
 - Financial principles;
 - Mathematical principles.
- Skill in:
 - Monitoring and evaluating staff;
 - Prioritizing and assigning work to staff;
 - Applying Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations;
 - Applying accounting procedures and principles;
 - Developing and implementing procedures and standards;
 - Analyzing accounting transactions;
 - Preparing and analyzing financial statements, budgets and reports;
 - Establishing internal control and compliance systems and information systems;
 - Conducting cost-benefit analysis;
 - Preparing annual reports;
 - Estimating costs for projects;
 - Analyzing and setting rates;
 - Using computers and related software applications;
 - Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

LOCATION: Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.

SALARY INFORMATION: Based on credentials and specialized experience and whether applicant has a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) or Certified Management Accountant (CMA) designation in a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, and/or the District of Columbia.

POSITION: One (1).

CONTRACT: Two-year; subject to renewal.

RELOCATION EXPENSES: If hired from outside the CNMI, relocation expenses are negotiable; but they are not to exceed \$5,000.00 for moving to Saipan and not to exceed \$5,000.00 for moving away from Saipan. Receipts will be required for justification. Other conditions may be applicable.

SUBMISSION PROCESS: Please submit (1) a cover letter, (2) a resume, (3) a list of references, and (4) a CUC Employment Application by one of the following means:

- United States Postal Service, First Class Mail or Priority Mail*:
Human Resource Office
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
P. O. Box 501220
Saipan, MP 96950-1220 USA

*If you choose to submit via USPS, please still also fax "or" email "or" drop off your package.
- Fax: 670-235-5131
- Email: employment.applications@cucgov.org
- Drop Off: Drop off your package at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the CUC Tinian or Rota Administration Office.

POLICIES: The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is an equal opportunity provider and employer and will not discriminate or tolerate discrimination against any employee or applicant in any manner prohibited by law.

It is also the policy of CUC to achieve a drug-free workplace and persons selected for employment will be required to pass a drug test which screens for illegal drug use prior to final appointment.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A. • Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 • Fax (670) 235-5131

Venus back in Grand Slam semis 6 years later

LONDON (AP)—In some ways, making it to a Grand Slam semifinal is rather been-there, done-that for Venus Williams.

She is, after all, already the owner of seven major titles, including five at Wimbledon.

This one, though, is different.

She's 36 now, a half-dozen years removed from her last such run. And, in the interim, she has been through the daily struggles of dealing with a disease that can sap energy and cause joint pain.

Williams made it to the final four at the All England Club for the first time since 2009, and at any Grand Slam tournament since the year after that, playing mistake-free to beat Yaroslava Shvedova 7-6 (5), 6-2 in the quarterfinals Tuesday.

"Semifinals feels good. But it doesn't feel foreign at all, let's put it that way," said Williams, whose first Wimbledon title came in 2000 and whose most recent came in 2008.

Asked to compare her current level of play to that of the past, Williams shook her head, shut her eyes and laughed.

"I don't remember. Six years ago is ages ago," she responded. "I was most likely kicking butt six years ago, if I was in the semis or the finals. You have to be."

Just like in the old days, Williams will be joined in the semifinals by a familiar face—younger sister Serena, who moved closer to equaling Steffi Graf's Open-era record of 22nd Grand Slam championships by defeating 21st-seeded Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova 6-4, 6-4, taking the last three



AP
Venus Williams of the U.S. returns to Yaroslava Shvedova of Kazakhstan during their women's singles match on day nine of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, Tuesday, July 5, 2016.

games of each set. Serena hit 11 aces, including one at 123 mph to end it.

This, then, is the latest chapter of the remarkable Williams sister tale: a pair of siblings from Compton, California, who rose to the top of tennis. It's the 11th time they've reached the semis at the same major; in all previous 10, one took home the trophy. That includes four all-in-the-family finals at Wimbledon, with Venus winning in 2008, and Serena in 2002, 2003 and 2009.

On Thursday, they will try to set up another title match

when No. 1 Serena faces unseeded Elena Vesnina, while No. 8 Venus meets No. 4 Angelique Kerber.

"It just means that she has a lot of perseverance. She's a real fighter," Serena said about Venus, the oldest woman in a major semifinal since 1994, when Martina Navratilova was 37 at Wimbledon. "Like I always say, it's super inspiring for me."

Kerber, who surprised Serena in the Australian Open final in January for her first

Grand Slam title, advanced by eliminating No. 5 Simona Halep 7-5, 7-6 (2). Vesnina, ranked 50th and never before a major quarterfinalist, moved on by overwhelming No. 19 Dominika Cibulkova 6-2, 6-2.

The last men's quarterfinal spot was earned by 2010 runner-up Tomas Berdych, who completed his 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (8), 6-7 (9), 6-3 victory over Jiri Vesely in a match suspended after the fourth set Monday night because of darkness. On

Wednesday, the semifinalists will be determined by these matchups: Andy Murray vs. Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, Roger Federer vs. Marin Cilic, Milos Raonic vs. Sam Querrey and Berdych vs. Lucas Pouille.

There wasn't much drama in the quartet of women's matches Tuesday, although Venus was perilously close to dropping her opening set against the 96th-ranked Shvedova, now 0-3 in major quarterfinals.

Shvedova led 5-2 in the tiebreaker before collapsing this way: forehand long,

backhand wide, forehand into the net, forehand long. Those unforced errors were part of her 24 in the match, 15 more than Venus. They also created a set point for Venus, who converted it with a 99 mph service winner.

Playing with her left thigh taped, Venus moved quite well, covering the court with speed and perfect timing, offering up enough defense and waiting for Shvedova's miscues. When Shvedova's final shot nestled in the net, Venus let out a cry of "Come on!" and raised her arms.

"Once you get to this part of a tournament, motivation is going to kick in after a few games of every match," said Venus' coach, David Witt, "and you're going to stop thinking about being sore, if you're sore."

In 2011, Venus revealed that she had been diagnosed with Sjogren's syndrome, and since then there have been repeated questions about when she might quit tennis - especially as early losses accumulated. She had six first-round exits at majors over the past six years, compared with three over her career's first 14 years.

"Retiring is the easy way out," she said. "I don't have time for easy."

About 1 1/2 hours later, Venus went back out to team with Serena and win a doubles match to get to that event's quarterfinals.

One more victory each in singles, and they'll be sharing the court again - except on opposite sides of the net, reprising their one-of-a-kind rivalry. Just like in the old days.

Mavs have deal with Nowitzki, will add Seth Curry

DALLAS (AP)—Dirk Nowitzki's new contract will give the Dallas forward a chance spend 20 seasons with the only franchise he has ever played for.

The Mavericks and Nowitzki have reached agreement on a two-year, \$40 million contract, a person with knowledge of the deal told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity Tuesday because contracts can't be signed until late Wednesday night Central time. Nowitzki will have a player option in the second year.

The person also said the Mavericks have agreed to a two-year, \$6 million contract with free agent guard Seth Curry, the younger brother of two-time MVP Stephen Curry.

At \$20 million per season, Nowitzki's deal is a significant raise for the 38-year-old, who opted out of the final year of a three-year, \$25 million

deal that was a huge discount for the Mavericks. It helped them get Chandler Parsons in free agency two years ago, although he is leaving for a max deal in Memphis.

L.A. Lakers star Kobe Bryant was just the fifth player in NBA history to reach 20 seasons and he retired in April as the only one so far to do it all with one team. Tim Duncan of the Spurs is considering whether to return for a 20th season in San Antonio.

Last spring, Nowitzki said after another first-round play-off exit that he felt as if he had at least two more good seasons in him after leading the Mavericks in scoring for the 15th time in 16 seasons. The 2007 NBA MVP essentially told a media outlet in his native Germany on Tuesday that he would retire with the Mavericks.

"I've always said that I'll end my career in Dallas," Nowitzki told the German news agency

DPA in comments translated by the AP. "I've been here 18 seasons. It would be great if I can make it 20."

Nowitzki's future with the Mavericks was actually a legitimate question Friday, the opening day of free agency when Dallas struck out on its top targets for the fifth straight year. Nowitzki had said the only way he wouldn't return is if the Mavericks tried to surround him with unproven players.

But the Mavericks added three veteran starters in two days, including two-fifths of the lineup for the 73-win Golden State Warriors, who blew a 3-1 lead and lost the NBA Finals to Cleveland. Dallas is set to add small forward Harrison Barnes on a max deal at four years and \$94 million. Barnes was a restricted free agent, but the Warriors will renounce the rights to him to make room under the salary cap for Kev-

in Durant.

Golden State also had to find a new home for Andrew

Bogut after securing a commitment from Durant, and agreed to trade the 31-year-old center to the Mavericks.

The Mavericks will have three returning starters in

Nowitzki, shooting guard Wesley Matthews and point guard Deron Williams, who has agreed to a second season with his hometown team on a one-year, \$10 million contract.

At \$9,000 a second, free agency has been fast and furious

MIAMI (AP)—The math is staggering, as everyone knew it would be. In the first 96 hours of free agency, NBA teams committed about \$3 billion toward contracts that can start becoming finalized later this week.

That's almost \$9,000 a second. Every second. For four days.

And for all the dominoes that fell between July 1 and July 4—Kevin Durant leaving Oklahoma City for Golden State, Al Horford leaving Atlanta for Boston, Mike Conley staying in Memphis with what would be the richest contract in NBA history—there are still plenty of fireworks remaining, most notably what will LeBron James do with his next deal and

if Dwyane Wade will stay in Miami or wear another team's uniform for the first time in his pro career.

As expected, the unexpected has reigned so far.

"The NBA and other businesses, they're not created equally," Thunder general manager Sam Presti said Monday, a few hours after Durant announced that he was taking a two-year deal with Golden State that would be worth \$54 million if he plays it out. There is a player option for the second season, the AP was told by a person familiar with the terms.

Presti could have said those words last summer and they still would have been accurate, though not as accurate as right now.

The league's about-to-kick-in \$24 billion television contract sparked a jump in the salary cap from \$70 million last season to just over \$94.1 million for the coming year, and that enormous increase created a market that was unpredictable to say the least.

Conley's deal will be worth \$153 million over five years. Joakim Noah is a two-time All-Star, a former All-NBA first-team player and a former defensive player of the year; he got four years and \$72 million from the New York Knicks. That's basically the same deal that Kent Bazemore—a career 6.4-point-per-game scorer—got to stay with the Atlanta Hawks.

Yanks get season-high 20 hits in rout of White Sox



CHICAGO

(AP)—It's buy or sell time across the majors, and Carlos Beltran knows the New York Yankees have to play better in order to stay together.

Beltran celebrated his ninth All-Star selection with three of New York's season-high 20 hits, and the Yankees cooled off the Chicago White Sox with a 9-0 win on Tuesday night.

"Everyone really getting a chance to swing the bat well today and everyone contributing, that's always nice," manager Joe Girardi said.

Chase Headley hit a two-run homer for the second straight day for New York (41-42), which improved to 2/3 on a 10-game trip that takes the club to the All-Star break. Austin Romine also connected, and Masahiro Tanaka (6-2) pitched into the eighth inning while improving to 4-1 with a 1.14 ERA in eight road starts.

Beltran, who played his first game in the outfield since he left last Tuesday's 7-1 loss to Texas with a tight right hamstring, leads New York with 19 homers and 54 RBI.

Indians 12, Tigers 1

In Cleveland, Lonnie Chisenhall was 4 for 5 with three RBI, Carlos Santana and Tyler Naquin homered, and the Cleveland Indians remained perfect in 11 games against the Detroit Tigers this season.

The Indians have outscored the Tigers 77-24 in the season series. Cleveland leads Detroit by 7 1/2 games in the AL Central.

Orioles 4, Dodgers 1

In Los Angeles, Manny Machado hit a three-run homer in the fifth inning, lifting Baltimore and ending its five-game skid while stopping Los Angeles' five-game winning streak.

Machado sent a 2-2 pitch from Kenta Maeda (7-6) into the upper corner of the left field pavilion, putting the AL East-leading Orioles ahead 4-1.

Astros 5, Mariners 2

In Houston, Luis Valbuena hit a solo homer and Colby Rasmus and rookie A.J. Reed added two-run shots in the fourth inning to back up a solid start by Dallas Keuchel.

Keuchel (6-9), last year's AL Cy Young Award winner who has struggled this season, allowed five hits and two runs in six innings for his season-high third straight win.

Blue Jays 8, Royals 3

In Toronto, Josh Donaldson hit two solo home runs, Troy Tulowitzki had a three-run blast and Toronto connected



four times.

Fresh off being named a reserve to the AL All-Star team, Donaldson went 3 for 4 and scored four runs while the Blue Jays won their fourth straight.

Marlins 5, Mets 2

In New York, Giancarlo Stanton homered twice to match his career high with five RBI, powering Wei-Yin Chen and Miami to a victory that snapped New York's five-game winning streak.

Chen (5-3) tossed seven innings of three-hit ball, spoiling Jose Reyes' return to the Mets in his first major league game since a 59-day domestic violence suspension.

Rangers 7, Red Sox 2

In Boston, Shin-Soo Choo homered on David Price's first pitch of the game, and Elvis Andrus scored to break a sixth-inning tie as the Texas snapped a three-game losing streak.

Price (8-6) threw 46 pitches in the first two innings—45 after Choo drove the first one of the game out to center.

Reds 9, Cubs 5

In Chicago, John Lackey's winless streak stretched to five games, Chicago manager Joe Maddon was ejected and Cincinnati beat struggling Chicago behind Zack Cozart's 13th home run.

Lackey (7-5) allowed six runs, six hits and five walks in six innings, dropping to 0-3 in his past five starts. The Cubs have lost five of their last six games and 10 of 15.

Rockies 7, Giants 3

In San Francisco, All-Star

Nolan Arenado hit a go-ahead three-run home run in the seventh inning to give Colorado the big hit it has missed for much of the past week and end a season-high six-game losing streak.

Colorado catcher Nick Hundley and San Francisco's Angel Pagan exchanged words in the seventh during Pagan's at-bat before plate umpire Carlos Torres and Hundley had a heated chat.

Brewers 5, Nationals 2

In Washington, Hernan Perez hit a tiebreaking two-run hom-

er in the sixth inning to back an effective pitching performance by Zach Davies, and Milwaukee won its second road series of the season.

Davies (6-4) allowed two runs and nine hits in 6 2/3 innings. The rookie retired 10 in a row before giving up three straight singles in the seventh.

Pirates 5, Cardinals 2

In St. Louis, Eric Fryer burned his former team with two hits and three RBI to lead Pittsburgh.

The Cardinals released Fryer when backup catcher

Brayan Pena came off the 15-day disabled list and the Pirates claimed him off waivers on Sunday.

Phillies 5, Braves 1

In Philadelphia, Maikel Franco homered for the third straight game and Philadelphia hit four overall.

Zach Eflin (1-2) struck out six and walked none in his first career complete game and first major league win.

Angels 13, Rays 5

In St. Petersburg, C.J. Cron homered twice and drove in

AP
New York Yankees right fielder Carlos Beltran, center, is tagged out at home by Chicago White Sox catcher Alex Avila, right, as White Sox starting pitcher Carlos Rodon, left, looks on during the first inning of a baseball game in Chicago, on Tuesday, July 5, 2016.

four runs, and Los Angeles overcame another shaky start by Tim Lincecum to get its third win in 15 games.

Cron had a solo shot off Jake Odorizzi (3-4) during a four-run second and a three-run drive against Enny Romero in a six-run ninth.

Twins 11, Athletics 4

In Minneapolis, Kennys Vargas, Max Kepler and Miguel Sano hit home runs, Tommy Milone beat his old team and Minnesota topped Oakland in a game that ended early Wednesday morning after a severe thunderstorm delayed the start by 2 hours and 42 minutes.

Marcus Semien hit his 18th home run in the second, but that was all the A's managed against Milone (1-2).

Diamondbacks 7, Padres 5

In Phoenix, Rickie Weeks Jr. hit a three-run homer and Paul Goldschmidt had two RBI after being named to his fourth straight NL All-Star team.

Weeks hit a three-run homer off Christian Friedrich (4-4), and Zack Godley (2-0) worked around trouble through five innings in front of 14,110 fans.

Australia team manager expresses Rio Games security concerns

SYDNEY (AP)—The manager of Australia's Olympics team says Rio de Janeiro organizers haven't answered her concerns about security in the leadup to next month's games.

Chef de mission Kitty Chiller wrote to games organizers on June 20 to express her concerns about pre-games security after Australian paralympics competitor Liesl Tesch and team physiotherapist Sarah Ross were robbed at gunpoint while training in Rio.

Chiller asked organizers to bring forward the deployment of 85,000 security personnel to ensure team members are safe ahead of the August 5 opening of the games.

She said Tuesday that she was confident the competition venues and surrounding areas will be safe during the game but "I'm going next week and I would like to know that I can walk the streets being safe from next week."

Track official: Logistics will be a problem

At about the same time newly minted members of the U.S. Olympic track team get their uniforms, they'll be led to a TV monitor featuring a map of Rio de Janeiro with three dots: the athletes' village, the track team's training center and Olympic Stadium.

None of them are all that close to each other; all will take a long time to reach.

USA Track and Field CEO Max Siegel said Tuesday that after a few visits to Brazil "we realized logistics would be a problem."

So, in addition to counting on the Olympic traffic lanes that will supposedly make travel easier for the 120-plus U.S. track and field Olympians, USATF staff is making it clear to the athletes that they need to build in plenty of time to make their way through the city.

It's expected to be a 45-to-60-minute drive from the athletes' village to both the stadium and the training center.

"It's getting coaches and athletes to understand that it's not going to be easy, like London, where everything is easy and right there," said Robert Chapman, USATF's associate director for sport science and medicine.

Siegel said USATF is working with the U.S. Olympic Committee on contingency plans in case traffic does end up as snarled as some predict. Aretha Thurmond, a four-time Olympian who is now director of international teams for USATF, said staff will be on the ground a full two weeks before the Olympic track meet starts to make test runs to the stadium and map out every possible option for athletes.

"There's only so much that's in your control," Thurmond said. "You've got a city with a mountain in the middle, and you've got to go around it."

The process of getting from Point A to Point B may seem like a rather low-level concern considering all the other troubles consuming the Olympic city: Zika, polluted water, security concerns amid a financial crisis and more. But, as Thurmond knows, athletes need a comfort level as they head for the biggest competition of their lives.

"If we know something's not right, then we try to build that into their travel schedule," she said, "so athletes don't have to make that decision."

Regarding the mosquito-borne virus that has hit Brazil as hard as any country, Siegel said USATF has taken part in USOC-led seminars and is distributing as much information as possible about health concerns.



France hopes to end 32-year streak of host nation failures

PARIS (AP)—Home advantage has counted little for host nations in recent European Championship history.

Since the finals tournament era kicked off in 1980, only France has kept the trophy at home—32 years ago with Michel Platini in his prime.

France can take some home comfort from this exception ahead of the Euro 2016 semifinals starting Wednesday.

First, Portugal plays Wales in Lyon one day before the French face Germany in Marseille, where captain Platini inspired his team to beat Portugal in a memorable semifinal in 1984.

Still, history teaches us that a semifinal is most often the stumbling stage for home hopes.

Here is how five European Championship hosts fell short of glory:

PORTUGAL, 2004

Portugal just had to win the Euro 2004 final. Or so it seemed.

Playing in Lisbon, with a star-packed lineup against a Greece team of journeymen.

Luis Figo was in the team, along with a 19-year-old Cristiano Ronaldo.

Portugal even had the lesson of an opening-game loss against Greece to learn from.

What could go wrong?

A classic from the Greek playbook: Another 1-0 win built on tight marking, robust defense, a headed goal from a rare scoring chance.

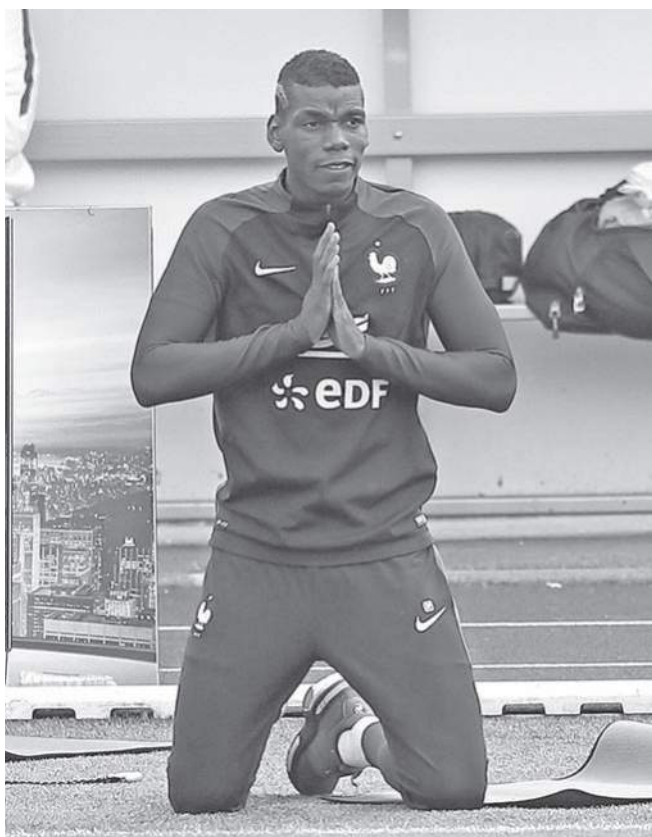
Ronaldo left the field in tears and is yet to win a title with Portugal.

NETHERLANDS, 2000

How the Netherlands managed to lose a Euro 2000 semifinal is still hard to believe.

After Italy was down to 10 men from the 34th minute in Amsterdam, the Dutch failed with two penalty kicks in 90 minutes and three out of four in the shootout after extra time.

Italy was even without first-choice goalkeeper Gianluigi



France's Paul Pogba attends a training session at the stadium in Clairefontaine, France, Monday, July 4, 2016. France faces Germany in a Euro 2016 Soccer Championship semifinal soccer match on Thursday, July 7, 2016 in Marseille. AP

Buffon who injured a hand in a pre-tournament friendly.

Francesco Toldo was a capable deputy. The Fiorentina 'keeper saved Frank de Boer's first-half spot-kick and watched Patrick Kluivert strike the post in the second half.

Though Kluivert scored in the shootout, De Boer missed again and Italy won it 3-1.

ENGLAND, 1996

England has never again been as close again to tournament success since a semifinals loss to Germany.

This 1-1 draw at Wembley Stadium is recalled as one of the best in the era of the 'Golden Goal' rule, when the first goal scored in extra time ended the game.

An English shot hit the post, what seemed a good a German goal was disallowed, and Paul Gascoigne was a toe's length from connecting on a ball trick-

ling across an empty German goalmouth.

Germany, inevitably, won the penalty shootout and Andreas Moeller celebrated his decisive spot-kick with a chest-strutting, peacock pose.



SWEDEN, 1992

In the last eight-team European Championship, Sweden was ousted in the semifinals by a newly unified Germany team.

Sweden topped a group that eliminated a Platini-coached France and ended Gary Lineker's England career when Tomas Brodin scored in a 2-1 win.

A West Germany team that won the 1990 World Cup now could call on several East Germany stars including midfielders Matthias Sammer and Thomas Doll.

One of the World Cup winners, Karl-Heinz Riedle, scored twice in a 3-2 win, though Denmark would stop Germany getting back-to-back titles.

in the Top 6 in the 2015 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships, earning slots to the Pacific Oceania ITF/GSDF Touring Team Program, and producing results and showing good attitude while representing the GSDF (Grand Slam Development Fund) Touring Team.

Tan and Heras joined the same three tournaments in Fiji and New Caledonia and got ranking points in the doubles. They share the same rankings at No. 2, 212, moving two notches up from last week's list.

Meanwhile, Lee, Tan, and Heras will be competing in their last ranking tournament

under the scholarship program next month. The trio and the rest of the Pacific Oceania squad will be playing in the Oceania Closed Junior Championships in Lautoka from Aug. 8 to 12.

The Oceania Close event is a B2 competition which awards 120 ranking points to the champion and 80, 60, 40, 25, and 10 to the runner-up, semifinalists, quarterfinalists and Losers in the Round of 16 and 32, respectively. In the doubles, the champions will get 80 ranking points, 60 for the runners-up, 40 for the semifinalists, 25 for the quarterfinalists, and 10 for the losers in Round of 16.

Imperfect Portugal plots another escape vs Wales

LYON, France (AP)—Don't let Cristiano Ronaldo's devilish grin and chiseled torso fool you. Portugal is the undisputed ugly duckling of the four teams left standing at the European Championship.

While semifinal rival Wales, along with Germany and France, have all impressed with big wins to deservedly reach this stage, Portugal has only joined them after barely squeaking through each round.

And unless Ronaldo can rediscover his scoring touch, Portugal will struggle to find a way past an attack fueled by Gareth Bale when it plays Wales at the Stade de Lyon on Wednesday.

Portugal coach Fernando Santos, however, doesn't care about style or statistics.

"I would be bothered if I was at home and they were saying Portugal had played well but was no longer at the Euro," Santos said. "We have

a goal and we are doing all we can to achieve it. We are not here to play pretty or ugly.

"We are going to take on an excellent opponent, which has more victories and scored more goals than we have, but we believe we are going to win."

How Santos' side has managed to reach its fourth semifinal appearance in the last five continental competitions is something of a mystery.

Portugal has yet to beat an opponent in 90 minutes of regulation play after five matches at Euro 2016.

Portugal limped into the round-of-16 after three draws, finishing third in Group F behind Hungary and Iceland. It then needed an extra-time goal from Ricardo Quaresma to see off Croatia 1-0 in one of the poorest matches of the tournament. Next came a quarterfinal against Poland that Portugal claimed in a penalty shootout following its finish at 1-1 after 120 minutes.

All told, Portugal has been in the lead for a total of 22 minutes over the course of more than eight hours of football in France.

Yet, here they are, one win away from the final in Paris on July 10.

Understandably enough, Portugal's players are focusing on the product, not the process.

"Criticism gives us more motivation," said midfielder Danilo, who is likely to start against Wales for the suspended Williams Carvalho. "It's not easy, we see it in the news but it motivates us. It makes us determined to prove them wrong."

To assume that credit goes to Ronaldo for Portugal staying in contention is incorrect.

Other than one performance that did meet the incredibly high standards the three-time world player of the year has set for himself, Ronaldo has counted more glaring misses than goals.

FIESTA

From Page 28

However, Lower Base fell short in the end as Macoto was there to save the day for Fiesta, scoring 7 of his total points in the second half, including two of the team's last four field goals. Elmer Esdreton knocked in the two other baskets to make up for his absence in the first half.

Meanwhile, Kanoa and Mambas won the two other matches last Friday. Kanoa played in the second game and stretched its winning run to five after routing Shirley's Coffee Shop, 89-66.

As usual, Matt and Ernest Duenas teamed up in Kanoa's demolition of Shirley's, firing 20 and 17 points, respectively. Three other Kanoa players scored in double figures to crush Shirley's, which played without

big man Eric Dela Rosa.

Kanoa opened a big lead right in the first half, 53-25, and never gave Shirley's a chance to fight back.

Shirley's dropped to a 2-3 record, losing two of its last three games.

In the curtain-raiser, Mambas improved to a 2-3 mark after defeating Pacific Oriental, Inc., 52-43.

Ferdie de la Torre top-scored in Mambas second win, recording 12 points, while Tony Raho and Irish Pagarao combined for 18.

First Game

Mambas 52—De La Torre 12, Raho 9, Pagarao 9, Chan 7, J. Ong 6, Calibo 5, Delos Santos 2, Rabago 2.

POI 43—Acosta 14, Arago 9, Guevarra 8, Muna 7, Aguda 3, Ciano 2.

Scoring by halves: 28-24, 52-43.

Second Game

Kanoa 89—M. Duenas 20, E. Duenas 17, Agulto 13, Sacramento 12, Rabauliman 10, Schmidt 9, Usi 7, Pablo 2.

Shirley's 66—Jugos 22, Pollisco 12, Nicdao 8, Catungal 8, Drilon 5, Sabino 4, Macario 4, Bordon 3.

Scoring by halves: 53-25, 89-66.

Third Game

Fiesta 49—Quizon 14, Macoto 13, Villamena 10, Vivero 9, Elmer Esdreton 4.

Lower Base 42—Benevente 9, Jinang 8, Alegre 6, Bazinero 5, W. Benevente 4, Peteru 3, Echavez 3, Garcia 2, Camu 2.

Scoring by halves: 35-24, 49-42.

LEE

From Page 28

Lee was able to participate in the two ITF Juniors ranking tournaments in Fiji and one in New Caledonia after receiving the ITF/OTF Pacific Training Centre-Summer Scholarship.

Two of her fellow CNMI players—Tania Tan and Isabel Heras—also got the scholarship that brought together players in the Pacific in Fiji for more than two months of high-level training and competitions.

The three Commonwealth players were selected to join the elite group after finishing

ALVAREZ

From Page 28

weight class and the former is positive the better conditioning and much improved striking skills he developed in the same fight camp in San Diego will give him the advantage against his foe.

"The training was tough but as the days went by we started getting use to it because we were getting in so much better shape than when we started. We did a lot of wrestling which is their forte out there. The wrestling sessions were pretty grueling but that's also why we got in shape so quickly. We really focused on strength and conditioning

because the gas tank is really the only thing you can control in a fight so we made sure we pushed ourselves and our gas tanks," said Alvarez, who will try to improve his 11-4-0 fight record and end a skid.

The Trench Tech bet lost his last two fights, bowing to Guam Tony Reyes (RNC) in PXC 52 last March this year and to Japan's Yutaro Muramoto via unanimous decision in PXC 50 last December. Shane's opponent also lost his recent fight (via split decision against Ernie Braca in January 2016 in PXC 51), but before that, Urrutia won three straight bouts.

Despite dropping his last two fights, Alvarez remains

positive on his chances against the 29-year-old Urrutia.

"I feel I'm in the best shape of my life so far after doing lots and lots of running. My chances against Urrutia are really good especially after the fight camp I had. He's a tough guy and is willing to stand or go to the ground. I know I have the edge on him in the stand up and since we were doing a lot of wrestling out there I know he's going to have a hard time taking me down. Everyone in San Diego was very impressed with my striking skills and I will definitely going to utilize my hands and combos in this fight. And I have the gas to do so for 3+ rounds. I'm ready!" Alvarez said.

BJJ Camp and Promotion at Trench Tech Gym

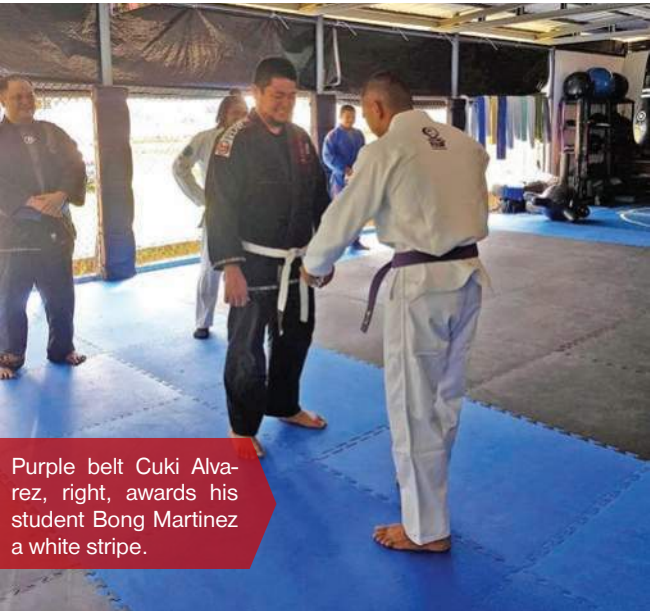
CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



Purebred Guam BJJ head professor Stephen Roberto, third left, and Trench Tech founder and owner Cuki Alvarez, fourth left, join the BJJ practitioners promoted from white to blue belt last weekend at the Trench Tech Gym.



Purple belt Cuki Alvarez gives words of encouragement to siblings Mark and Mild Thompson before awarding them white stripes.



Purple belt Cuki Alvarez, right, awards his student Bong Martinez a white stripe.



Purebred Guam BJJ head professor Stephen Roberto, right, congratulates blue belt Ken Tanzawa, while Trench Tech founder and purple belt Cuki Alvarez looks on.



Vince "The Clinch" Masga, third left, is joined by, from left, BJJ professor Eric Sian, Cuki Alvarez, and Purebred Guam BJJ head professor Stephen Roberto for a photo after the former received his blue belt.



BJJ practitioners watch action on the mat during a training session last week.

Purebred Guam BJJ head professor Stephen Roberto, right, checks on a bout between two female BJJ practitioners.



Purebred Guam BJJ head professor Stephen Roberto, right, BJJ professor Eric Sian, left, joins the Alvarez family, Cuki, Mari, and Alverick, for a group photo after a training session.



White belt Bong Martinez, left, is congratulated by his personal instructor Cuki Alvarez, while Purebred Guam BJJ head professor Stephen Roberto, right, and another professor Eric Sian, second right, watch the ceremony.



Venus back in
Grand Slam
semis 6 years
later

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Yanks get
season-high
20 hits in rout
of White Sox

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

28 THURSDAY, JULY 7, 2016

Alvarez, Camacho all set for PXC 54



PACIFIC XTREME COMBAT PHOTOS
Frank "The Crank" Camacho, left, and Korean Han Seul Kim face off during a press conference for PXC 54 yesterday in Guam. The two fighters will duel in the main event of PXC 54 tomorrow at the UOG Calvo Field House.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Frank "The Crank" Camacho and Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez are counting on their rigorous fight camp in San Diego as they go for the win in their respective fights in tomorrow's PXC 54 at the University of Guam Calvo Field House.

Camacho will be featured in the main event of the MMA competition as he takes on Korean Han Seul Kim, while Alvarez will be challenging the U.S.' Emilio Urrutia in one

of the seven supporting bouts in PXC 54.

"The raining in San Diego was amazing and training with high level guys was too awesome. I've improved a lot

and I am looking forward to seeing the results of the level of conditioning they put us through. And the game plan I have in store for Kim is going to be awesome," Camacho said.

The 27-year-old MMA fighter trained at Alliance Training Center for nearly three weeks and had workouts with Brandon Vera, Phil Davis, Dominick Cruz, Jeremy Stephens, Ross Pearson, and other UFC fighters in preparation for his duel against Kim.

He is facing Kim, who

holds a 7-3-0 win-loss-draw record, in a welterweight bout and Camacho said is he more comfortable in this weight class.

"Now that I'm back up to 170lbs (welterweight) I have a lot more energy to compete," said Camacho, whose previous fights were in lightweight class.

Coming into this weekend's fight, Camacho sports an 18-3-0 mark, winning his last three bouts.

Meanwhile, Alvarez is battling Urrutia in the bantam-

See ALVAREZ on Page 26



Fiesta recovers, beats Lower Base

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan regained its winnings ways quickly after downing the Lower Base Warriors, 49-42, in the third game in the 2016 Tan Holdings Inter-Company Basketball League last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Fiesta, which dropped its fourth game against the league-leading Kanoa Resort, 49-64, recovered with

Paul Quizon and Adonis Macoto finding their targets to lift their team to the 7-point win. Quizon scored 14 points, while Macoto also finished in twin digits, tallying 13.

Fiesta led by double figures after the first half, 35-24, behind the 11 markers of Quizon, but was caught off guard in the second when Lower Base began converting shots from downtown to close the gap.

See FIESTA on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan's Paul Quizon, second right, and Lower Base's Ed Echavez, right, battle for the loose ball, while the latter's teammate look on during the second half of their game in the Tan Holdings caging last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.



Lee barges into Top 500 in world rankings

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI's Carol Lee made it to the Top 500 in the ITF Juniors world rankings.

Based on the new world rankings ITF Juniors released last July 4, the 14-year-old Lee is now at No. 443. She started the 2016 season at No. 748, making her the highest ranked player not only in Micronesia, but the rest of the

Pacific region. Last week, she moved up to world No. 510 after competing in two ranking tournaments in Fiji and one in New Caledonia.

The Commonwealth player advanced to the finals of the singles event in both the Open Junior BNP PARIBAS de Nouvelle-Caledonie and Oceania Open Junior Championships, which are Grade 5 tournaments. She and Ayana Rengiil also marched into the finals of the doubles event in the New Caledonia competition and in the quarterfinals in the

Oceania Open. In the South Pacific Open Junior Championships—a higher level tournament with its Grade 4 ranking—Lee qualified in the quarterfinals in singles and lost in the Round of 16 in doubles.

Her three finals appearances and two quarterfinals stints in the three tournaments earned Lee 55 singles rankings points and 25 in doubles for her combined 115 points (including her points in a couple of tournaments last year).

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Carol Lee makes a return in one of her off-island tournaments this year. Lee is now ranked world No. 443.